GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1050)

Name of Candidate	Neha		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	135596
Center	–	Date	–

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका मं खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Citizens' Charters make administration both accountable and citizen-friendly. However, over time, in a large number of offices, Citizens' Charters have fallen into disuse. Suggest measures that can make these charters effective tools for bringing accountability in public service. (150 WORDS) 10

नागरिक घोषणापत्र (सिटीजन चार्टर) प्रशासन को जवाबदेह और नागरिक-अनुकूल दोनों बनाते हैं। हालाँकि, समय के साथ, ज्यादातर कार्यालयों में नागरिक घोषणापत्र अप्रचलित हो गए हैं। कुछ ऐसे उपाय सुझाइए जो इन घोषणापत्रों को, लोक सेवाओं में जवाबदेही लाने का प्रभावी उपकरण बना सकते हैं। (150 शब्द)

Citizens' Charter is a tool that promises quality and timeliness of delivery of services by a government organization.

However, they are many times only on paper. Following measures can help make them effective:

(1) Feedback to be taken from civil society, citizens, consumers before designing the charter

(2) Adequate greivance redressal mechanism to be in place.

(3) Appointed a POC to oversee the implementation of the charter.

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(4) Using quantifiable terms
eg: number of days to deliver a service.
(5) Avoid vague terms
(6) Penal provision in case of non-compliance to the promised norms.
(7) Making it easy for citizens to identify non-compliance.
eg: testing laboratory for food quality check.
(8) Ease of reporting any grievance.
(9) Quick redressal and make necessary change in the way of working once any issue detected → continuous improvement.

Thus, by ensuring participation of all stakeholders and an effective feedback loop the charter can become useful

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2. Discuss the importance of involving civil society in pre-legislative scrutiny and mention the steps that can be taken by the government to increase public engagement in it. (150 WORDS) 10

पूर्व-विधायी जांच में नागरिक समाज को सम्मिलित करने के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए और इसमें जन भागीदारी बढ़ाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए जा सकने वाले कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

India is a representative democracy and hence the legislative makes the laws.

However, with changing circumstances, it is equally important to involve the citizens in law making.

Civil society involvement in pre-legislative stage is needed to:

(1) Raise awareness.
(2) Build a consensus
(3) Help common man understand the complexities or intricacies of any issue
(4) Adequate voice to minorities
(5) Ensures the interest of all stakeholders are addressed.
(6) Reduce opposition, ignorance.

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Following steps can be taken by government to increase public engagement:

(1) Put draft bills online → seek feedback through it

(2) My Gov App, website, official postal address, fax address, email are avenues that can be provided.

(3) Make Panchayats and ULBs a part of consultation process.

(4) Multimedia alternatives like Mann ki Baat, Twitter, Facebook, Google hangouts

(5) Mandate local representatives to seek feedback in their constituency

(6) Publish feedback online before making final draft

(7) Referendum on critical issues

Thus, leveraging technology, we can become a truly participative democracy

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3. Poor standards of tertiary education are a drag on India's competitiveness. Elucidate. Also enumerate the initiatives taken by the government in the past few years to improve the quality of higher education in India. (150 WORDS)

10

तृतीयक शिक्षा के निम्न-श्रेणी के मानक भारत की प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता में अवरोधक हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही भारत में उच्च शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाने के लिए पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान सरकार द्वारा की गई पहलों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Gross Enrolment Ratio in tertiary education is 25% and rising.

However issues facing it:

(1) Huge privatization → over 90% poor control over infrastructure, fees, academic standards.

(2) Lack of industry relevant education, rote learning.

(3) Vacancies in large numbers inspite of rising NET, PHDs.

(4) Lack of practical training, internship, apprenticeship

(5) Low R&D, innovation.

(6) Act as an avenue for black money generation.

Various measures taken by government to improve the quality of T. education

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(1) RISE scheme and creation of HEFA to finance the development of infrastructure

(2) INSPIRE, Ramanujam fellowship to attract best faculty from abroad.

(3) Institute of Eminence Tag → greater autonomy, financial aid to create 20 IoE in India and reach in Top 100 worldrank

(4) Attractive stipend to meritorious students of IIT, IISc to pursue PhD research.

(5) Atal tinkering labs in schools to build scientific temper

(6) UGC, MCI to be overhauled New mechanisms to focus more on quality, infra, not just quantity. (7) fee check.

Thus, these initiatives will help make quality and affordable education available

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4. Social audit has a crucial role in effective implementation of social sector programmes. Comment. Also discuss its strengths and limitations. (150 WORDS) 10

सामाजिक क्षेत्र के कार्यक्रमों के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में सामाजिक लेखा परीक्षण की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके मजबूत पक्षों और सीमाओं पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Social audit is the process of checking of process, implementation and systems in place of a government scheme by the beneficiaries themselves.

It plays crucial role by:

(1) Demanding accountability and transparency.

(2) Identifying fake beneficiaries

(3) Quality check and control

(4) Makes them a stakeholder in their own development

MGNREGA has a mandatory social audit component.

Strengths of social audit are:

(1) Prevents leakages, diversion

(2) Makes people more aware of their rights.

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(3) Makes governance citizen-centric.

However limitations are:

(1) Poor literacy levels.

(2) no compulsion, except MGNREGA

(3) appropriate data may not be provided

(4) Lack of knowledge to conduct audit.

(5) Manipulation by powerful section of the community.

Way forward:

(1) Training the beneficiaries

(2) More schemes to make it mandatory

(3) Statutory backing → Meghalaya has already done.

(4) Egovernance plan to be completed along with Digital India

An informed citizen is a citizen that demands accounts. This is what social audit does.

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5. What are the major welfare schemes for elderly in India? Do you think the benefits of such schemes are reaching a wide section of the target segment? Give reasons. (150 WORDS) 10

भारत में वृद्धजनों के लिए प्रमुख कल्याणकारी योजनाएँ कौन-सी हैं? क्या आप मानते हैं कि इस प्रकार की योजनाओं का लाभ लक्षित हिस्से के एक वृहत् भाग तक पहुँच रहा है? कारण बताइए। (150 शब्द)

According to 2011 Census, about 8% of the population is above 60 years of age.

Welfare schemes for elderly include:

(1) Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme

(2) Antyodaya Anna Yojana → additional foodgrains to poorest households, without any adult in age group 15 to 59.

(3) Atal Pension Yojana → for workers in unorganized sector

(4) Post Office, Banks → higher saving rates for senior citizens

(5) Higher tax exemption

(6) Certain states give pensions to widows below poverty line.

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(7) Reverse mortgage scheme to allow monthly income from immoveable assets.

(8) Maintenance and welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.

The benefits of such schemes do not reach the most needy due to:

(1) Low literacy

(2) Poor health

(3) Fail biometric authentication → due to old age.

(4) Have to go themselves for such authentication → not always possible due to health, transportation.

(5) Reluctance to file police complaints against own family in the 2007 Act.

The social and moral values need strengthening to care truly for the elderly.

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6. Welfare policies in India have undergone a paradigm shift in recent decades, yet they retain certain elements of continuity. Discuss with examples. (150 WORDS) 10

हाल के दशकों में भारत में कल्याणकारी नीतियों में मूलभूत बदलाव (पैराडाइम शिफ्ट) आए हैं, फिर भी उनमें निरंतरता के कुछ तत्व बने हुए हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

India is a socialist republic committed to welfare economics.

While LPG has brought in free trade and open market, the welfarism still persists:

(1) We have moved from a development oriented approach to a rights based approach However, the goal remains same. 'Food for work' in the 1970s is now seen as MGNREGA → both focus on creation of stable assets.

(2) Greater use of technology is now seen → DBT, JAM trinity and e-governance initiatives. However, the

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intermediaries still remain like shop owners, digital correspondents, bank helpers.

(3) Health and nutrition based schemes have only increased in scope and coverage → the goals like reducing TFR, MMR, IMR remain same.

(4) Increased focus on sanitation → Self help is still preferred. Nirmal Gram Abhiyan to Swacch Bharat all focus on community participation and initiative

(5) Community has become a stakeholder → Social audit.

Thus, welfare measures continue to be driven by socialistic vision. Aayushmaan Bharat, RTE, AAY are some of its biggest examples.

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7. Discuss whether changes recommended by the Law Commission in its 268th report can help in addressing the problems of undertrials languishing in jails in India. What other measures can be taken in this regard? (150 WORDS) 10

चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या अपनी 268वें रिपोर्ट में विधि आयोग द्वारा अनुशंसित परिवर्तन, भारत में कारागारों में सजा काट रहे विचाराधीन कैदियों की समस्याओं को दूर करने में सहायता कर सकते हैं। इस सन्दर्भ में अपनाए जा सकने वाले अन्य उपाय कौन-से हैं? (150 शब्द)

67% of the people in prison in India are undertrials

The measures for addressing their problems include:

(1) For anyone arrested for a crime with less than 7 years punishment → released if 1/3RD of possible sentence served.

(2) For those arrested for a crime of more than 7 years punishment → release if 1/2 sentence possible is served.

Law Commission report 268 has also suggested:

(1) ~~to~~ separate undertrials from hardened criminals

~~(2) Consider open jails~~

(2) faster access to bail

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(3) Make arrests only when necessary and not as a measure to buy time.
(4) Access to free legal aid.

Other measures in this regard are:
(1) Implementation of Prakash Singh judgement → improve police investigation, pendency
(2) Fast track courts to hear
(3) Estimated that almost 80% still in jail as cannot afford bail or surety → easier bail norms.
(4) Use of tele-law to provide legal aid.
(5) Make them aware of their rights.
(6) Improve conviction rates

Thus, undertrials need to be ensured of speedy trial and a strengthened criminal justice system

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8. While various government initiatives and policies have created opportunities in the affordable housing segment, there are challenges that still persist. Discuss. (150 WORDS) 10

यद्यपि विभिन्न सरकारी पहलों और नीतियों ने वहनीय आवास के क्षेत्र में अवसरों का सृजन किया हैं, लेकिन कुछ ऐसी चुनौतियाँ हैं जो अभी भी बनी हुई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

It is estimated that 2 crore houses are needed to fulfil the 'Housing for All' vision by 2022.

The initiatives include:

(1) Interest subvention, subsidy to low income group.
(2) RERA implementation.
(3) Relaxed FSI norms.
(4) In-situ slum rehabilitation and resettlement schemes.
(5) Incentives to form cooperative and build on land.
(6) Subsidies for building house in rural areas.
(7) Free land to deprived sections of rural areas.
(8) Greater tax benefits to builders for affordable segments.

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However, challenges still persist like:

(1) Suburbanization → high prices in the city centre make it more lucrative to build homes in suburb.

However transportation makes it difficult, thus encouraging urban slums.

(2) Lack of focus on transit oriented development.

(3) Vacant, illegal encroachment on government lands.

(4) Lack of tenancy reforms → makes redevelopment less lucrative for owners.

(5) Issue of supply of essentials → water, electricity in houses

(6) Information assymetry in the real estate sector.

Thus, the need is of a demand driven supply of homes and not merely policy reforms

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9. Demographic dividend may become demographic liability in the absence of adequate skill development. In this context, discuss the importance of National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 2015. (150 WORDS) **10**

समुचित कौशल विकास के अभाव में जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश, जनसांख्यिकीय दायित्व बन सकता है। इस संदर्भ में, राष्ट्रीय कौशल विकास एवं उद्यमिता नीति, 2015 के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

With over 60% population in the working age, India is in the midst of a demographic dividend.

However to harness it well, we need to focus on:

health education skill training

It is estimated that 12 million youth enter the job market every year.

National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015 is a right step in this direction as:

(1) Focusses on importance of vocational education and skill training

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(2) Simplifies norms for apprenticeship

(3) Recognition of prior learning through NSQF.

(4) Support for skill training with a view for self employment by PMKVY, DDU-GKY.

(5) Easier access to credit by MUDRA loans.

(6) Priority to MSME sector in government procurement

(7) Payment of social security benefits (partial) by government for new MSME employees.

Way forward:

The policy rightly seeks to create employment opportunities. Simultaneous focus on health and nutrition can truly help us reap the demographic dividend.

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10. Highlight the need for whistleblower protection in India. Critically analyze whether the Whistleblower Protection Act provides sufficient protection to the whistleblowers. (150 WORDS) **10**

भारत में व्हिसलब्लोअर सुरक्षा की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालिए। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए कि क्या व्हिसलब्लोअर सुरक्षा कानून व्हिसलब्लोअर को पर्याप्त सुरक्षा उपलब्ध कराता है। (150 शब्द)

Whistleblowers are the employees ~~to~~ who unearth and report the wrongdoings in their organization.

Whistleblower Protection Act states:

(1) They should not be named without consent → Satyendra Dubey case necessitated this

(2) No harrassment, inquiry or transfer without approval of any whistleblower

(3) Action against false, malicious complaints.

However, the latest amendments have issues like:

(1) Need the information in some cases to be got through RTI only.

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(2) Whistleblower can be charged under OSA (Official Secrets Act) in case of some information

(3) No anonymous complaints allowed.

Thus, we need more measures to strengthen the act like:

(1) Strict norms for police protection

(2) Can help in getting new identity → as done in USA → new name, Social Security no.

(3) allow anonymous complaints

(4) Remove the conflict with OSA in cases where public interest outweighs secrecy.

(5) Do not overlap RTI, WB Act

Whistleblowers need further empowerment and Lokpal can add muscle to the act of unearthing wrong doings

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11. What are the factors which have been responsible for slow pace of growth of coverage under the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP). Enumerate the recent steps taken by the government in order to increase this pace to achieve universal coverage swiftly. (250 WORDS) **15**

सार्वभौमिक प्रतिरक्षण कार्यक्रम (UIP) के अंतर्गत कवरेज में वृद्धि की धीमी दर के लिए कौन-से कारक उत्तरदायी रहे हैं? सार्वभौमिक कवरेज को शीघ्रातिशीघ्र प्राप्त करने की इस गति में वृद्धि करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए हालिया कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

Immunization is the process of vaccinating children to protect them from various diseases.

Mission Indradhanush is the latest UIP that includes vaccination for 7 diseases.

The programme aims to achieve atleast 90% coverage by 2020. The factors for its slow growth are:

(1) Migratory families → difficult to track immunization

(2) Poor connectivity

(3) Inadequate infrastructure and manpower in PHCs.

(4) Availability of vaccines and

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cold storage for their proper storing.

(5) Cultural beliefes → some religious leaders have been claiming that vaccines can make a child impotent.

(6) Discrimination among girl child and disabled children, volunteers not visiting Dalit bastis.

Following steps have been taken to increase coverage:

(1) Mission Indradhanush II → to cover all children who have missed any of these vaccines: Polio, Whooping cough, measles, diptheria, TB Hep B, and also Japanese Encephlitis in some regions.

(2) Door to door surveys to check for vaccination → also

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vaccinated at home itself.

(3) Focus on R&D → to reduce import dependency on vaccines

(4) Under NHM, PHCs will be converted to health and wellness centres and so will have better infrastructure

(5) Education and awareness to dispel any myths about harmful effects of vaccination

(6) Anganwadis to report on any child who is not vaccinated

7) Focus on border districts where migrants from Nepal, Bangladesh may stay.

Thus, a wholesome approach is being followed to ensure that no child remains unvaccinated.

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12. Highlight the ways in which digital divide perpetuates and manifests itself in India. Discuss the importance of steps taken by the government to bridge this divide. (250 WORDS) **15**

उन तरीकों पर प्रकाश डालिए जिनके चलते भारत में डिजिटल अंतराल निरंतर बना हुआ है तथा स्पष्टत: दृष्टीगोचर होता है। इस अंतराल को पाटने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

The difference in the availability of access to technology, especially internet is termed as 'Digital Divide'.

In India, it is seen among various groups like:

(1) Rural v/s Urban
(2) Male v/s Female
(3) Poor v/s Rich.

The digital divide perpetuates due to difference in:

4As
- Accessibility
- Availability
- Awareness
- Affordability

It manifests itself in the way different services and facilities are utilized:

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(1) Dependency on cash → India has a very high cash to GDP ratio → over 14%.

(2) Manual records, bills, receipts in various governme benefit schemes.

(3) Low penetration of digital payments, especially in rural

The following steps have been taken by government to bridge the divide:

(1) Demonetization, along with JAM trinity forced many to use digital ways for the first time

(2) BHARAT NET, Gram Net

(3) Free Laptops, Smartphones by some states to students

(4) WIFI facilities at public places.

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(5) Common service centres in all Gram Panchayats.
(6) No transaction tax on online payments for various government services
(7) Reduced GST on POS machines
(8) Post Office Payment Banks, RU Pay Card, fingerprint authentication, micro ATMs.
(9) National E governance Plan

These schemes and efforts have helped improve the 4As of digital divide

Way forward → increase access to online portals in regional languages. Train more girls in the usage.

Thus, the digital divide, when breached can truly usher in 'Digital India'.

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कुछ ना लिखें)

13. What are the objectives of National Health Mission? Why, in your opinion, non-communicable diseases have acquired salience in recent times? What are its implications for health policy in the country? (250 WORDS) 15

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन के उद्देश्य क्या हैं? आपकी राय में, गैर-संचारी रोगों ने हाल के दिनों में क्यों ध्यान आकृष्ट किया है? देश में स्वास्थ्य नीति के लिए इसके निहितार्थ क्या हैं? (250 शब्द)

National Health Mission has been released to focus on health and well being.

Its objectives include:

(1) Increase public spending on healthcare to 2.5% GDP by 2025.

(2) 1.5 lakh PHCs to be upgraded to Health and Wellness centres → 12 services

(3) PPP in secondary and tertiary care → private hospitals will be allowed to access public hospital land for a symbiotic relation.

(4) NCDs screening to be provided for cancer (Oral, breast, cervical), hypertension,

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diabetes and pulmonary.

(5) Immunization

(6) Increasing availability of beds and medical practitione

(7) Preventive care through sanitation measures.

It is estimated that NCDs contribute to over 60% of the burden of disease globally and hence have become important. Also

(1) Changing lifestyle, stress

(2) Pollution, consumption of narcotics

(3) overuse of pesticides on foo

(4) Contamination of marine bodies, ground water

(5) Reduced physical activity

are factors that contribute to an upward trend in NCDs.

The implication of this on the health policy are:

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(1) Need for more customized and holistic treatment → a combination of AYUSH, allopathy and change in lifestyle, behaviour (smoking)

(2) Need to promote yoga.

(3) Focus required on environment → AQI, Ujjwala, PAHAL, happy seeders are some steps

(4) Palliative care will become more important, along with preventive → currently major focus is on curative care.

(5) Need for newer medical curriculum → MCI has revised syllabus after 21 years

(6) Need to promote newer insurance products as not all may cover NCDs.

Thus, NCDs require a shift from mere healthcare to health and wellness.

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14. Over the years, there has been a growing realisation that undue interference from the State, lack of autonomy and widespread politicisation has severely impaired the functioning of Cooperative sector and there is a need to introduce urgent reforms in the Cooperative sector. Discuss. (250 WORDS) **15**

समय के साथ, यह अधिकाधिक अनुभव किया जा रहा है कि राज्य द्वारा अनुचित हस्तक्षेप, स्वायत्तता की कमी एवं व्यापक राजनीतिकरण ने सहकारी क्षेत्र के कार्यकरण को गंभीर रूप से विकृत किया है तथा सहकारी क्षेत्र में तत्काल सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

Cooperatives were introduced in India following the DPSP. They seek to leverage the power of the collective to achieve economic empowerment.

Some areas where they are:

(1) finance cooperatives
(2) dairy cooperatives
(3) sugar cooperatives
(4) consumer goods, farm items

Some of the success stories include:

(1) AMUL, Lijjat
(2) Sugar production in Maharashtra, Western UP.
(3) have helped some farmers access formal credit sources.

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However, the issues that plague cooperatives are:

(1) Politicization → instead of 'one man one vote', the dominant caste group takes over the cooperative.

It was seen in Haryana that fertilizers, seeds of good quality were not passed on to all members, but sold in open market.

(2) State interference → seen in sugar. State dictates the price to be paid, resulting in over 3000 crores of payment dues pending.

(3) Finance cooperatives have become money laundering avenues → during demonetization, district cooperative banks showed huge cash deposits of back dates. RBI had refused to accept this.

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(4) Control of political leaders
→ especially in sugar factories of Maharashtra.
(5) No periodic elections, no equal access to services, fake beneficiaries and members.
(6) Create fake cooperatives to avail easy finance and tax benefits.

Way forward:

(1) Connecting district coop banks to Core Banking solution → already started
(2) Increase % requirement of women members.
(3) Due diligence before providing any benefits.
(4) Grievance redressal mechanism
(5) Reduce State interference, decide a SOP.

Cooperatives were inspired by Gandhi's vision of self dev and need to be empowered to enable all round dev.

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15. With the current system of health financing in India being largely out-of-pocket payments, examine the need for reforms in healthcare finance. Also discuss the issues associated with reinforcing insurance as the long-term strategy for health financing in this regard. (250 WORDS) 15

भारत में स्वास्थ्य वित्तपोषण की वर्तमान प्रणाली के अंतर्गत बड़े पैमाने पर आउट-ऑफ-पॉकिट भुगतान किए जाते हैं, ऐसे में स्वास्थ्य देखभाल वित्तपोषण में सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए। इस संबंध में स्वास्थ्य वित्तपोषण के लिए दीर्घावधिक रणनीति के रूप में बीमा को सुदृढ़ करने से संबद्ध मुद्दों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

It is estimated that over 70% health expenditure in India is OOP. Insurance penetration in India is below 10% for healthcare.

It is estimated that, every year, almost 4 crore people fall below poverty line due to health expenses. The current financing ways are:

(1) own savings
(2) land, jewellery sale, mortgage
(3) borrow from relatives, friends
(4) borrow at high rate from money lenders → debt trap → may also lead to bonded labour, across generations.

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Thus, there is a need for reform in healthcare finance. Some measures already taken:

(1) AAYUSH MAAN Bharat -> cover 10 crore families, Rs 5 lakh/year

(2) ESIC for unorganized sector labour made compulsory

(3) Low interest loans by some PSUs for heathcare

(4) PMJBY, PMJJY -> coverage to all Jan Dhan accounts.

However, newer financing measures needed include:

(1) Bank credit to be available

(2) Insurance packages to cover pre-existing conditions

(3) Special packages for cancer.

(4) Recognition of mental illness as a disease and payout by insurance for them

(5) Greater coverage for senior citizens as population aging.

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Insurance is the best-available measure for long-term health protection.
However, issues are:
(1) Information assymettry.
(2) No immediate benefit visible → inability to look at the long term picture
(3) need money for immediate expenses, rather than invest
(4) Belief that nothing will happen as healthy now.
(5) Children will take care.

Way forward:
(1) IRDA should strictly monitor to remove any fraud schemes.
(2) Reduce complexities in the payout process.
(3) Government should encourage with more customized products through LIC.

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16. Explain the significance of the recently launched National Nutritional Strategy in the light of sliding ranking of India along the Global Hunger Index. Also, discuss with examples, the role that local self governments can play in promoting, monitoring and sustaining nutrition initiatives.(250WORDS) 15

ग्लोबल हंगर इंडेक्स में भारत की गिरती रैंकिंग के आलोक में हाल ही में आरंभ की गई राष्ट्रीय पोषण रणनीति के महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, पोषण से संबद्ध पहलों को बढ़ावा देने, उनकी निगरानी करने और उन्हें सतत बनाए रखने में स्थानीय स्व-शासन द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका पर उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

India ranks 100 out of 119 countries in the Global Hunger Index.

National Nutrition Strategy POSHAN Abhiyan is a clarion call to fight hunger. It aims to reduce:

(1) Stunting, wasting by 2%.
(2) Anaemia, underweight by 3% per year till 2022.

Currently we see:

(1) 38% Stunting
(2) 25% Wasting
(3) Almost 50% anaemia in reproductive age women.

Thus, the Poshan Abhiyan seeks to take measures to achieve SDG 1 → Health for All

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The Strategy is a convergence of various schemes like:

(1) ICDS (2) MDM

(3) PMMVY (4) NFSA (5) JSY

and seeks to strengthen their implementation and monitoring

Local self-government can help in promoting, monitoring and sustaining nutrition initiatives by:

(1) Social audit by Gram Sabha
→ to ensure all schemes and benefits reach the needy.

(2) Quality check on food prepared under MDM

(3) Increase awareness about diversification of food basket
→ encourage kitchen garden, poultry, duck raising as seen in Jharkhand by SHGs

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(4) Can supplement the work of ASHAs and ANMs to ensure no mother or child is left out.

(5) Community kitchen → seen in some communities in Gujarat.

(6) Elders can be roped in to share best practices on cultivating and preparing local food → eg: Sattu preparation is now being encouraged in East India

(7) Identify severe cases of malnutrition and refer them to healthcare centres.

POSHAN is not just a strategy. It is a Jan Andolan to fight the evil of hunger. Efforts of the collective, led by the tier 3 bodies can accelerate this mission.

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17. The bureaucracy in India is facing a number of serious challenges from diminishing human capital to political interference that, if left unaddressed, will lead to further institutional decline. Discuss. How can these challenges be addressed? (250 WORDS) 15

भारत में नौकरशाही, ह्रासमान मानव पूंजी से लेकर राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप तक कई गंभीर चुनौतियों का सामना कर रही है, जिन्हें यदि अनसुलझा छोड़ दिया गया तो आगे और अधिक संस्थागत पतन होगा। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों से कैसे निपटा जा सकता है? (250 शब्द)

Indian bureaucracy, once hailed as the 'Steel frame' of India, is plagued by several issues today.

Some challenges are:

1) Huge vacancy in middle and upper bureaucracy → almost 1500 posts.

(2) Politicization of bureaucracy → for perks, benefits, posting

(3) Trend of bureaucrats resigning to contest elections

(4) Disproportionate growth of assets → corruption.

(5) Lethargy, averse to change → due to assured promotions with seniority.

(6) Generalists.

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Some measures undertaken to face these challenges are:

(1) Invitation to lateral entry in specialized areas like telecom, economics, airlines

(2) 360° appraisal system for IAS officers → to get a full feedback and evaluation

(3) Compulsory retirement of certain bureaucrats

(4) RTI, CVC, CBI, Whistle Blowers Protection Act.

However, there is a need to do a lot more to ensure the bureaucracy is inline with the modern times:

(1) Complete transfer to Digital technologies → Egovernance, DBT, JAM trinity, Bharatnet can all together reduce the human interface in governance.

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(2) Security of tenure to each post → reduce political pressure already in place for CBI.

(3) Compulsory rotation between state and centre to give all round exposure.

(4) Lateral exit to be allowed along with lateral entry

(5) Promotion by merit cum seniority.

(6) Exposure to stints in the private sector

(7) After 10 or 15 years of service, aim for Specialization among the critical areas.

(8) Protection to honest officers and whistleblowers.

(9) Compulsory training at various intervals.

Bureaucracy thus needs to get rid of its rust and reclaim its status as the backbone

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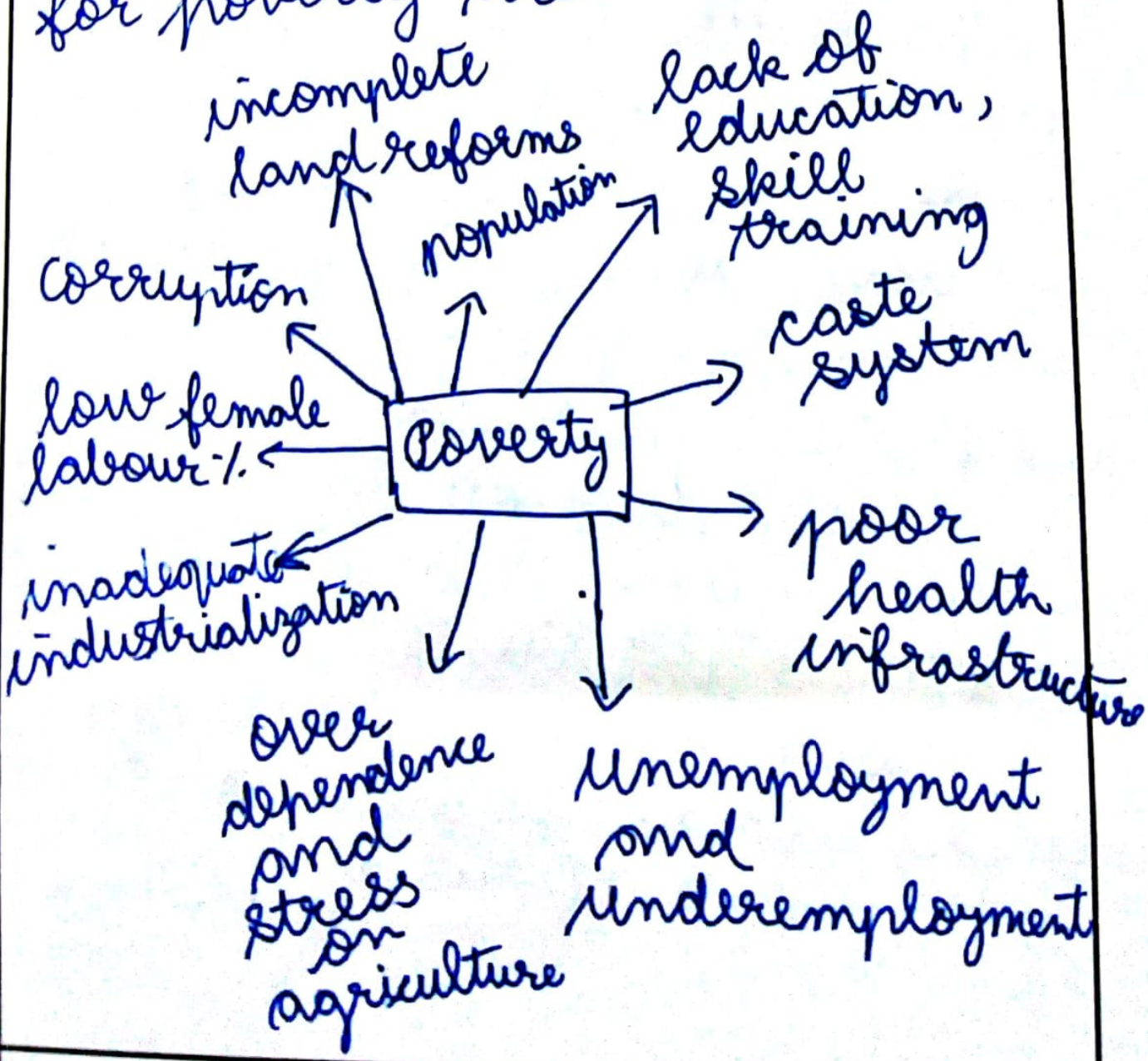
18. While many people have been able to rise above poverty line, India is still home to the largest number of poor. Discuss briefly the underlying factors responsible for the prevalence of poverty in India. What are the areas in which focussed efforts need to be made in order to accelerate poverty eradication in a sustainable manner? (250 WORDS) 15

जहाँ, कई लोग गरीबी रेखा से ऊपर आने में सफल रहे हैं, वहीं भारत में अभी भी सर्वाधिक संख्या में गरीब निवास करते हैं। भारत में गरीबी की व्यापकता के लिए उत्तरदायी अंतर्निहित कारकों पर संक्षेप में चर्चा कीजिए। गरीबी उन्मूलन की गति को संधारणीय तरीके से तीव्र करने के लिए किन क्षेत्रों में ध्यान केंद्रित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है? (250 शब्द)

India sees 21% population living below poverty line.

Underlying factors responsible for poverty are:



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Following areas need to be focussed on to tackle poverty:

(1) Population control → to reduce stress on resources.

(2) healthcare → like Ayushmaan Bharat → healthy Indians will lead to demographic dividend

(3) Vocational education, skill training, apprenticeship

(4) Make in India → Manufacturing should become atleast 25% GDP focus on employment intensive areas like textile, food processing

(5) Doubling farmer income → not merely production but value addition and export of agri produce.

(6) MSME overhaul → need access to formal credit, tax sops, skill training, market linkages → biggest source of possible employment.

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(7) Entrepreneurship → Startup India, Standup India.

(8) Focus on education and employment of deprived → SC, ST, OBC, Minority, women.

(9) If women participation in workforce matches men, India GDP can grow by 16% → IMF

(10) Reduce income inequality → crackdown black money, benami property.

(11) Renegotiate FTAs → to protect Indian industries from cheap inputs, goods, reverse duty

(12) DTAA negotiations

(13) WTO → free trade of men and material, investment to be lobbied for.

(14) Ease of doing business, FDI.

Gandhi called poverty to worst evil and through multipronged approach, we can tackle this evil.

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19. In context of the need to strengthen corporate governance, the Kotak panel report has called for a major overhaul in norms for listed companies. Critically discuss the impediments to corporate governance in India and evaluate how the recommendations can help in overcoming them. (250 WORDS) **15**

कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस को सुदृढ़ करने की आवश्यकता के संदर्भ में, कोटक पैनल के रिपोर्ट में सूचीबद्ध कंपनियों हेतु मानदंडों में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन का आह्वान किया गया है। भारत में कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए और साथ ही मूल्यांकन कीजिए कि पैनल की सिफारिशें इनसे निपटने में कैसे सहायता कर सकती हैं? (250 शब्द)

Corporate governance is the norms to oversee the functions and operations of a corporate body.

Recent times saw many issues like Shell companies, illegal activities, financial misappropriation which led to formation of Uday Kotak panel.

Some of the impediments to corporate governance were:

(1) Presence of huge number of family businesses with no well structured succession planning → eg: Tata case where Cyrus Mistry was brought

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and then booted out.

(2) Non-compliance of audit and accounting norms.

(3) Large number of minority shareholders who have no say in the operation decisions

(4) Inadequate representation on the board of directors.

(5) Non-filing of tax returns balance sheets.

(6) Non compliance of CSR rules

(7) Excessive interference of promoter families, no autonomy to management → eg: Infosys case, Narayan Murthy.

(8) Less representation of women, minority shareholders.

In light of these, the Kotak Panel recommendations can help improve corporate governance by:

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(1) One woman board member
(2) Atleast 3 external board members
(3) CSR report to be presented to board
(4) Representatives to represent minority shareholders.
(5) Mandates the periodic conducting of board meetings
(6) Compulsory to have in place mechanism to deal with sexual harassment.
(7) Fixes the % of increment, bonus, salary of the senior management.
(8) Auditing norms and reporting norms specified.

Thus, by ensuring compliance to best practices and protection of interests of all stakeholders, corporate governance can be strengthened

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कुछ

20. Several issues related to adopting new technologies, transforming processes and improving implementation of NeGP need to be addressed. Discuss. Also, enumerate the sets of principles guiding the design and implementation of the e-Kranti Program (NeGP 2.0). (250 WORDS) **15**

नई प्रौद्योगिकियों को अपनाने, प्रक्रियाओं को रूपांतरित करने और एनईजीपी (NeGP) के कार्यान्वयन में सुधार लाने से संबंधित कई मुद्दों से निपटने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, ई-क्रांति कार्यक्रम (NeGP 2.0) के डिजाईन (रूप-रेखा) और कार्यान्वयन का मार्गदर्शन करने वाले सिद्धांतों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

NeGP to revolutionise the governance functions was a beginning towards Digital India. NeGP 2.0 will further accelerate this mission.

There were various issues that NeGP faced, like:

(1) Low digital literacy
(2) Connectivity issues
(3) Infrastructure issues.
(4) Resistance to change among the employees.
(5) Difficulty in mapping the workflows into a digital format.

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The principles guiding the design and implementation of e-Kranti are:

(1) Re-engineering → all the processes, and then map them into workflows such that it can be digitized

(2) Adhere to the Citizen's Charter → design processes and timelines so that the charter can be fulfilled

(3) Training all employees.

(4) Efforts to bridge digital divide → Common Service Centres to have a volunteer who will assist people in accessing services online.

(5) Improvement in infrastructure Bharatnet, Grammet, WiFi hotspots at all public places

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minimum speed of 100 MBPS are some of the planned measures.

(6) Cyber security

(7) Data protection → Sri Krishna panel recommendations to be followed

(8) Indian language interfaces

(9) Usage of voice commands.

Thus, Egovernance is further being strengthened by NeGP 2.0.

This will help ensure accountability, transparency and good governance.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1055)

Name of Candidate	Neha		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	135596
Center	–	Date	–

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Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Even though fought away from its shores, the Korean War saw a close involvement of India. Discuss. **(150 words)** 10

यद्यपि कोरियाई युद्ध भारत के समुद्रतट से दूर लड़ा गया था, किन्तु इसमें भारत की घनिष्ठ संलग्नता देखी गयी थी। चर्चा कीजिए।

After Japanese defeat in WW2, Korea was divided into two parts along the 38th parallel

The Korean War of 1952 :

(1) North Korea moved an aggression towards the South

(2) Fearing a communist take-over of the South, USA through UNSC sanctioned action.

(3) The forces were successful in pushing North forces back however, they soon entered the North too

(4) China then intervened, fearing a US-influenced state next to its border.

The war ended without any treaty but the status quo ante was returned, along the 38th parallel.

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Involvement of India:

(1) Condemned North's action and supported US-led motion in UNSC

(2) However, it opposed the movement of US-led forces towards and in the North

(3) Thus, both actions showed India's commitment to NAM.

(4) India was chairman of Neutral Nations in the repatriation of prisoners of war on both sides.

(5) India had provided humanitarian assistance like food, medicines during the war

Hence, through its activities, India had reiterated its position of leadership of the non-aligned nations.

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2. Concluded in 1919, the treaty of Versailles was a failure, both in its intents and outcomes. Examine. **(150 words)** **10**

1919 में संपन्न वर्साय की संधि अपने प्रयोजनों एवं परिणामों, दोनों ही दृष्टि में विफल रही थी। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The treaty of Versailles was forced upon Germany after its defeat in WWI.

The treaty was a failure in intents as:

(1) Solely blamed Germany for the war → forced £ 6600 mn war compensation

(2) Only Germany was asked to reduce army strength and demilitarize Rhine area.

(3) France, England dominated it, Italy and Russia were not given adequate representation → making these countries wary of them during WW2.

(4) League of Nations was formed but USA, USSR, Germany were not its part.

(5) Did not lead to decolonization

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It was a failure in outcomes

(1) WW2 started barely 2 decades after its conclusion

(2) Could not check rise of Nazism and Fascism

(3) Could not check the rising military power of Germany.

(4) Even after Dawes Plan and Young Plan, German economy continued to suffer, supporting the rise of Hitler.

(5) Could not stop Hitler's actions in Sudentenland, Czechoslovakia, Mussolini's Ethiopia conquest.

The 'Treaty of Versailles' only served as a forced peace and infact sowed the seeds of World War II

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3. The failures of the League of Nations, ultimately, can be traced back to its membership as well as events around the globe in 1930s. Explain. **(150 words)** **10**

राष्ट्र संघ (लीग ऑफ नेशंस) की विफलता का मूल कारण, अंततोगत्वा, इसकी सदस्यता एवं 1930 के दशक में घटित वैश्विक घटनाक्रमों को माना जा सकता है। व्याख्या कीजिए।

League of Nations was founded after WWI based on the 14 point proposal of Woodrow Wilson.

It aimed to establish international peace and security. WWII within 2 decades shows its failure.

The failure, though can be traced back to its birth:

(1) USA did not join it
(2) USSR was not allowed to join
(3) Germany was given entry only in 1937.
(4) It became a Britain-France hegemony

The other factors are:

(1) It failed to rein in Japan when it invaded Manchuria.

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Japan simply withdrew from the league.

(2) Only some economic sanctions on Italy after its Abyssinia (Ethiopia) attack

(3) The group worked on consensus and not majority. Also, it could only take action against other members, and not nations outside LON.

(4) Britain-France's 'policy of appeasement' was reflected in LON too, with failure to condemn Hitler's initial acts.

However, the failure was also a lesson, as UN was modelled on majority base and not consensus.

Also, ILO under LON did excellent work to improve labour conditions all over.

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4. What was the Balfour Declaration? Why is it considered to be a significant factor in shaping the course of conflict in West Asia? **(150 words)** 10

बाल्फोर घोषणा क्या थी? इसे पश्चिम एशिया में संघर्ष की दिशा तय करने वाले एक महत्वपूर्ण कारक के रूप में क्यों माना जाता है?

Balfour Declaration, during WWI, was Britain's recognition of the Zionist cause and a homeland for Jews in Mid East.

The significance is:

(1) Committed Palestine land for the Jewish homeland

(2) Increased the exodus of jews from all over the world to the 'Israell' land

(3) Did not involve any discussions with the Arabs

The role of this in shaping the West Asia is:

(1) Gave jews the confidence to capture the Arab land

(2) 'Israell' declared itself as a nation in 1948.

(3) The 6 Day War in 1967

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further led to capture of Gaza, West Bank, Sinai, Golan heights.

(4) Israel had previously joined Britain-France in the Suez Canal blockade of 1956.

The Balfour Declaration was a breach of Sykes Pikot agreement which had recommended a joint solution.

Even after decades, after multiple rounds of multi-lateral discussions - Oslo Accords, Camp David Summit, UN activities, the peaceful solution is still a dream.

The simmering Israel-Palestine issue that continues to cause instability in West Asia thus has its seeds in the Balfour Declaration.

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5. "Historical events are to be evaluated in terms of their consequences". In this context, critically assess the legacy of the October 1917 revolution in Russia. **(150 words)** **10**

"ऐतिहासिक घटनाओं का मूल्यांकन उनके परिणामों के संदर्भ में किया जाना चाहिए"। इस संदर्भ में, अक्टूबर 1917 की रूसी क्रांति की विरासत का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

History, it is said, often repeats itself. Hence evaluating the consequences of historical events can help learn and design a better future.

October 1917 revolution of Russia, in this context sles:

(1) It was caused by the failure of February revolution to withdraw from the war and halt the economic hardships.

(2) The revolution brought Lenin and Bolsheviks to power.

(3) First Communist government

(4) National Economic Plan by Lenin and then the 5 Year Plans of Stalin showed a

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new economic model → they demonstrated success in collective agriculture, rapid industrialization.

(5) Focus on Science, technology, defence sectors made Russia a leader in Space and arms race

The impact was:

(1) Spread of Communist ideology → still seen in China, North Korea, Vietnam, Cuba

(2) Economic planning → even India was inspired by 5 YPs.

(3) Raised awareness on Social security and labour welfare → even the most capitalist nations today have welfare measures, labour protection laws

Thus, the October revolution's legacy is the recognition of the "have nots" and bringing them to forefront of any policy making

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6. Starting form small incremental steps, the war in Vietnam spanned multiple presidencies culminating in the failure of the United States on multiple fronts. Examine. **(150 words)** **10**

वियतनाम युद्ध उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ते हुए छोटे-छोटे कारकों से प्रारम्भ होकर कई राष्ट्रपतियों के कार्यकाल तक जारी रहा, जोकि अनेक मोर्चों पर संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका की विफलता में परिणत हुआ। परीक्षण कीजिये।

Vietnam haunts USA as the only war they could not win. Spanning across five presidencies, it was a disaster for USA right from the start.

The course of war was:

(1) After France left, Vietnam was divided into 2 States – the North ruled by VietCong under Ho Chi Minh and the South under anti-Communist Ngo Dien.

(2) Dien was unpopular and hence VietCong began efforts to unify Vietnam in 1953.

(3) Fearing a 'Domino Effect' if the communist VietCong takes over Vietnam, USA began

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to supply arms to the South
(4) During JFK's presidency, the logistic, material, economic support was further increased
(5) Lyndon Johnson directly deployed US troops in Vietnam
(6) This is called the 'First Televised War' and drew wide criticism both within USA and from other nations
(7) Napalm, Agent Orange, bombs were used on civilians forests, farms were destroyed. Severe famine stuck.

Yet USA could not win as:
(1) Ho Chi Minh was popular.
(2) Guerilla warfare by Viet Cong
(3) Unfamiliar terrain, diseases
(4) Civilians helped Viet Cong.

In 1973, US troops withdrew and in 1975, Vietnam united under Minh and Viet Cong.

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7. The beginning of modern China can be traced back to its humiliation at the hands of the western colonial powers. Examine the significance of the Opium Wars in this context. **(150 words)** 10

आधुनिक चीन के उदय को पश्चिमी औपनिवेशिक शक्तियों द्वारा इसको अपमानित करने के प्रसंगों में देखा जा सकता है। इस संदर्भ में, अफीम युद्धों के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Mao Zedong had written "Lay low, bide your time", advising China. Xi Jinping's global ambitions seem to point that China now believes its days of laying low are over — it is time for its rise.

This new assertive China can be traced to its past:

(1) China was an isolated nation. It was self-sufficient. Chinese silk and tea were exported all over, enriching it

(2) Worried by its drain of wealth and rising trade deficit with China, Britain began smuggling opium into China and getting them addicted

(3) 1830s saw the first Opium

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War in which China lost and was forced to open port to international trade.

(4) 1858-1860 was the second opium war after which it had to open even more ports

(5) 8 colonial powers divided China into their sphere of influence

(6) Boxer rebellion was crushed

(7) Later, Tibet was captured by Britain in 1890s.

(8) China also had to let go of important provinces like Hong Kong.

(9) Qing dynasty was ended.

The Opium Wars did not destroy the Dragon but only gave it time to heal and emerge stronger → the 21st century thus is seeing the roar of dragon

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8. The imposition of national emergency in 1975 was perhaps the gravest test India's democracy faced. Discuss. **(150 words)** **10**

1975 में राष्ट्रीय आपात का अधिरोपण संभवत: भारत के लोकतंत्र द्वारा सामना की गई सबसे कठिन परीक्षा थी। चर्चा कीजिए।

The 20 months from 25 June 1975 to January 1977 are often called the darkest days of Indian democracy.

Its effects were:

(1) Censorship of media

(2) Arrests of Opposition leaders and dissidents.

(3) Massive use of preventive detention, for months

(4) Cases of judicial killing, torture

(5) MISA → draconian law

(6) Suspension of habeaus Corpus

(7) Forced Sterilization

(8) Forced evacuation of poor → demolition drives in Turkman gate → killing several poor.

(9) 42nd Amendment → changed the balance of power between

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legislative, executive and judiciary. Gave more importance to DPSP over Fundamental Rights → violate basic structure

(10) An alternate centre of power emerged in Sanjay Gandhi

However, this very act ended up strengthening democracy by:

(1) Defeat of Mrs. Gandhi in 1977 elections

(2) 44th Amendment which strengthened the constitution, making it extremely difficult to impose Emergency again

(3) Made the masses aware of their rights and their power to hold the government accountable.

40 years have passed, democracy remains stronger than ever and this is the true feature of India's polity.

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9. While to some the abolition of the Privy Purses was a "historical necessity", to others, it was "betrayal of a promise". Examine in the context of the abolition of Privy Purses in 1971. **(150 words)** **10**

एक ओर जहाँ कुछ व्यक्तियों के लिए प्रिवी पर्स का उन्मूलन एक "ऐतिहासिक आवश्यकता" थी, वहीं दूसरी ओर अन्य लोगों के लिए यह "एक वादे के प्रति विश्वासघात" था। 1971 में प्रिवी पर्स के उन्मूलन के संदर्भ में परीक्षण कीजिए।

Privy purses were the payments being made to the heads of all the Princely States who had joined India.

It was proposed as a compensation to the revenue and land they surrendered.

The proposal to abolish privy purses was one of the contentious issues that ultimately led to a split in Congress. The issue was:

(1) Morarji Desai viewed it as a historical necessity. As something that Sardar Patel had promised.

(2) Mrs. Gandhi saw it as ~~hier~~ hereditary privileges

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that violated the constitution
→ which promised equality.

(3) It was also seen as an unnecessary burden on the exchequer of a poor country

(4) The right to inherit the privy purse was seen as against the idea of merit.

Hence through constitution amendment and necessary legal measures, Privy Purses were abolished in 1971.

This, combined with Nationalization of Banks strengthened Mrs. Gandhi's pro-poor, socialistic image leading to massive victory in the election.

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10. Attempts at land reforms in India involved not only legislation but also movements outside the government. In this context, examine the significance of the Bhoodan Movement. **(150 words)** 10

भारत में भूमि सुधारों हेतु किए गए प्रयासों में न केवल विधि-निर्माण अपितु सरकार से असंबद्ध आंदोलन भी सम्मिलित थे। इस संदर्भ में, भूदान आंदोलन के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

While laws like abolition of Zamindari, Tenancy reforms and Land Ceiling were measures at land reforms, 'Bhoodan Movement' aimed at the same, outside the legislative sphere.

The features are:

(1) Started by Vinoba Bhave

(2) About 4 million acre of land was donated

(3) People were encouraged to donate their excess land which was then distributed among the landless.

(4) 'Gramdan' was its extension and spread to over 4000 villages.

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However, issues with the movement include:

(1) People donated barren or poor quality or litigation-affected land.

(2) Led to land parcels → cannot take advantage of economies of scale due to small, distributed holdings

(3) Some people donated land only for namesake, to escape the land ceiling law

While not a complete success, Bhoodan was derived from Gandhian principles of village as a community that is self-sufficient. It also introduced the concept of collectivization in farming

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11. Examine the issues which obstructed the political development in post-colonial African countries. (250 words) 15

उन मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए जिन्होंने उत्तर-औपनिवेशिक अफ्रीकी राष्ट्रों में राजनीतिक विकास को अवरुद्ध किया।

Post World War II, several colonies, including those in Africa became independent nations.

The issues that have obstructed political development in post-colonial African countries are:

(1) Whimsically drawn borders → the European powers had divided the colonies without any consideration to ethnic, linguistic or tribal solidarity. Hence, the newly formed nations were often engaged in wars within and outside own nation. Example: Rhodesia, Nigeria, Sudan.

(2) Neo-colonialism → African

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countries were source of raw materials. Hence USA and other Western powers installed West-friendly regimes, or organised coups to install one

MNCs and TNCs were other means of indirectly interfering with their politics.

(3) Corruption, nepotism → the tribal clan-leaders were often the heads of the states. True representative democracy did not come in. Hence, rampant corruption was prevalent among the ruling classes.

(4) No industrialization → Africa was neither a production hub nor a market for finished goods. Hence, the imperial powers had not developed infrastructure, education,

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local governing bodies like was done in India.

(5) Inter-tribe rivalry → which saw power struggle, often violent. Example: Rwanda.

(6) Linguistic barriers → which slowed their integration with what was rapidly becoming an English-speaking world.

Africa is suffering from what is called the 'Dutch disease' and 'Aid Dependency'. The abundance of raw materials which are exported, and foreign aid that comes in, have both staggered the growth of political and economic structures in Africa

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12. Luddite rebellion was one of the reactions to the negative fallouts of the industrial revolution. Elucidate. **(250 words)** 15

लडाइट विद्रोह औद्योगिक क्रांति के नकारात्मक परिणामों के प्रति प्रतिक्रियाओं में से एक था। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Industrial Revolution is the period from late 18 th century marked by mass production and mechanization

Its positive impacts were:

(1) Huge production in less time, low cost due to scale.

(2) Export, consumption rose → bringing in profits which further aided investment in capitalism.

(3) Work opportunity for women children, unskilled men.

However, there were many negative fallouts too:

(1) Exploitative work conditions → no legal norms for minimum wages, maximum work hours, holidays, other social security benefits.

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(2) Unplanned urban growth → industries were located in cities which were expensive. Workers lived in slums in cramped space, poor hygiene, ventilation.

(3) Rising inequality → capitalists became richer while the wages stagnated.

(4) Rising unemployment → once mechanization rose, many lost jobs. Traditional artisans, weavers had already lost their livelihood to machines

(5) Healthcare scare → no benefits, poor living conditions led to spread of epidemics like plague, cholera, TB.

Luddite Rebellion in England was one of the ~~neg~~ reactions to these negative

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effects of industrial revolution.

In the Luddite Rebellion, workers broke the machinery to express their dissatisfaction and also out of fear of being replaced by machines.

It was such incidents that prompted a re-look at the pace and way of industrial revolution.

Sinclair Survey pointed to the social issues caused by the IR. This forced the State to pass laws for labour welfare. Unionization was also allowed as a proper avenue for dissent

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13. Fascism and Nazism both emerged in an unstable Europe, not only causing further instability but virtually destroying the continent in their wake. Explain. **(250 words)** **15**

फ़ासीवाद तथा नाज़ीवाद दोनों अस्थिर यूरोप में उभरे, जिन्होंने न केवल और अधिक अस्थिरता उत्पन्न की, अपितु इनके परिणामस्वरूप महाद्वीप लगभग नष्ट हो गया। व्याख्या कीजिए।

The Europe after WW I was economically ravaged, socially in grief and politically weakened.

It was in such a situation that rose Fascism and Nazism.

Nazism was a response to:

(1) Humiliation of Germany in the Treaty of Versailles

(2) Instability of the Weimar Republic → proportional representation system hence too many parties and difficult to take decisions

(3) Rising unemployment, prices,

(4) Loss of Saar to France, the most mineral rich region which further hampered industrialization.

Rise of Mussolini and Fascism was aided by:

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(1) A strong feeling that Italy was short-changed by the other Allied powers. → did not get the promised areas in the Treaty of Versailles.

(2) Unification of Italy had been completed by 1871, and the country was keen to showcase itself as a superpower

(3) Weak, indecisive monarchy and ruling class.

(4) Economic crisis, especially after Great depression.

Thus, a war-damaged economy and polity, and the Great Depression caused huge instability in Europe.

The policy of appeasement of Britain, France and policy of isolation of USA further aided the unchecked rise of Hitler and Mussolini and so did failure of League of Nations

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The outcomes was a disaster:

(1) Germany annexed Sudentenland, Czechoslovakia and finally Poland → triggering the entry of Britain, France → starting WW2

(2) Germany had finished their re-militarization and conscription hence heavy casualties ensued on both sides.

(3) Strategy of 'Blitzkrieg'

(4) Airpower was an important area → 'Battle of Britain'

(5) Naval blockades → shortage of food, medicines → further increased casualties.

(6) Use of army tanks, bombing fields, setting lands on fire → destroyed agriculture → severe drought and famine.

With around 80 million fatalities, most of them civilian, the war had a devastating impact on Europe.

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14. Events in West Asia and Afghanistan in the year 1979 had a deep impact on the politics of the region with long lasting significance. Examine. **(250 words)** **15**

वर्ष 1979 में पश्चिम एशिया और अफगानिस्तान में घटित घटनाक्रमों का क्षेत्र की राजनीति पर गंभीर प्रभाव पड़ा, जिसका दीर्घकालिक महत्व था। परीक्षण कीजिए।

Afghanistan was the centre of Communism in South Asia and Iran in West Asia had a pro-US Ruler.

However, 1979 changed the political scenario in both.

The Iranian Revolution led to the ouster of Pahlavi King and Ayattolah Khomeini came to power.

The impact of this was:

(1) Beginning of the Shia-Sunni race to dominance of West Asia

(2) Iran-Iraq War soon followed ushering in instability

(3) Iran was seen by Saudi as being close to Israel, thus creating a complex anti-Iran, anti-Israel rhetoric.

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(4) It led to USA propping up Saudi as the regional power-house → supplied weapons and promised protection of the House of Saud → turning a blindeye to human rights and rise of Wahabbism.

(5) Iran nursed nuclear ambitions and was very close to making a nuclear bomb.

Afghan events were as follows:

(1) A coup was arranged to overthrow the pro-communist government.

(2) Russia entered the war to support the regime

(3) USA, along with Pakistan raised local Mujahideens → trained them, armed them to fight Afghan and Russian troops.

(4) Though Russia withdrew

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troops in 1989, USA troops are still in Afghanistan, even after 30 years.

(5) Mujahideens one faction became Taliban → supported Al Qaeda which did 9/11 → starting the era of Jihadi Terrorism.

The events that began in 1979 still are showing their after-effects 3 decades later and still continue.

Iran remains a volatile country, USA withdrawal from JCPOA further complicating the issue.

Afghanistan's quest for democracy and peace is yet to see fulfilment.

Retrospection teaches us the mistakes of our past, which should be learnt and not repeated.

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15. Even though the South Americans welcomed the formulation of Monroe doctrine, it's later interpretation became a pretext for United States' intervention. Elaborate with examples. **(250 words)** **15**

भले ही दक्षिण अमेरिकियों ने मुनरो सिद्धांत के निरूपण का स्वागत किया, किन्तु इसकी पश्चात्वर्ती व्याख्या संयुक्त राज्य के हस्तक्षेप के लिए बहाना बन गई। उदाहरणों के साथ सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Monroe doctrine of 1823, defined USA's policy towards South America.

The doctrine stated:

(1) It recognized South America as the area of influence for USA

(2) It mutually agreed with Europe, to not undertake acts of aggressions in each others' spheres of influence.

(3) USA committed itself to defend South America against any aggression.

The formulation of the doctrine was welcomed by South Americans as:

(1) It led to withdrawl of Spain who had been trying

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to colonise some nations

(2) It acted as a protection against any future colonial or imperial powers.

However, later, it became a pretext for USA's intervention in South America, challenging the sovereignty.

Some examples include:

(1) CUBA : After Fidel Castro's rise to power and his commitment to communist ideology, USA made several assassination attempts on Castro.

The failed 'Bay of Pigs' invasion was launched by USA

The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 was a direct reaction to US interference, which pushed Cuba closer to USSR, which deployed its missiles in Cuba.

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Until very recently, till after the death of Castro, USA had no trade relations with Cuba.

(2) VENEZUELA : Oil rich country with socialistic economy and perceived closeness to Russia. As it battles economic crisis in recent years, USA has been seen to be directly or indirectly making efforts for regime change

(3) Panama Canal : USA controls it, though it is not only in USA's territory.

USA, thus continues to view the entire continent of Americas as its sphere of influence and makes efforts to keep the regimes friendly to itself and its policies

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16. The task of integrating tribal population in post-independence India raised multiple debates and resulted in a policy that has both successes and failures to account for. Explain. **(250 words)** 15

स्वातंत्र्योत्तर भारत में जनजातीय आबादी को एकीकृत करने के प्रयासों ने अनेक विवादों को जन्म दिया और जिसकी परिणति एक ऐसे नीति के रूप में हुई जिसने सफलताएँ एवं असफलताएँ दोनों दर्ज की। व्याख्या कीजिए।

Tribals constitute 8.5% of India's population and are the most deprived social group on most of the socio-economic parameters.

Post-independence, 2 schools of thoughts emerged:

(1) Isolation → by Verrier Elwin who proposed that tribes should not be interfered with

(2) Assimilation → by GS Ghurye who advocated assimilating the tribes in the Hindu culture.

However, both these extremes were rejected and India followed the policy of integration by Jawaharlal Nehru as listed in the Tribal Panchsheel.

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The policy includes:

(1) Not to over-administer tribal areas.

(2) To recognize tribal rights over land and forest

(3) To develop from among tribes, personnel for administration and management.

(4) Tribals should be allowed to develop according to own genius and own way.

(5) The impact of schemes should be measured by human lives affected and value created and not merely as statistics.

The success of the policies include:

(1) Reservations in education and public employment has created a tribal middle class → aware of rights and ready to fight for own people.

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(2) Decrease in IMR, MMR, NNMR illiteracy, poverty → though they remain more deprived than other communities

(3) Control of infectious diseases

Failures of the policies are:

(1) Alienation and displacement often without adequate alternate livelihoods → 40% displaced population are tribals

(2) Failure of land reforms

(3) Rising inequality → Naxalism is seen in most backward areas

(4) AFSPA → in some NE areas, which has led to claims of state excesses.

(5) Powerless Tribal Advisory Councils

(6) Ethnic strifes → among tribes

(7) Changing demography → tribes becoming minority in own land

Social, economic and political empowerment will really integrate the tribes

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17. The India-China war of 1962 was a result of immediate as well as longstanding factors. Explain. Also, examine the significant consequences of the war. **(250 words)** **15**

1962 का भारत-चीन युद्ध तात्कालिक और साथ ही दीर्घकालिक कारकों का परिणाम था। व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, इस युद्ध के महत्वपूर्ण परिणामों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

India-China War of 1962 and the loss still haunts India as a spectre.

The war was a result of longstanding factors like:

(1) Aksai Chin → While India recognises Johnson line as the border, China recognises McDonald line as the border

(2) China's annexation of Tibet and refusal to recognize the British-Tibet Shimla Agreement as it was not party to it.

(3) India's leadership of NAM → hindered ~~India's~~ China's ambition of being the Asian powerhouse

(4) India's refuge to HH Dalai Lama in 1959 and to other Tibetian refugees.

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The immediate factors were:
(1) Forward policy by India.
(2) Cuban Missile Crisis → due to which China was not worried about USA or USSR interference.
(3) Greater deployment of Indian forces on Western side.

The war resulted in China capturing Aksai Chin, which it retains till date.
It had also succeeded in capturing parts of NEFA, but it returned all the areas and declared a uni-lateral ceasefire.

The significant consequences of this war were:
(1) Breakdown of 5 year Plan
→ huge economic loss, coupled with drought, high prices

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(2) Blow to morale of Armed forces
(3) Nehru faced a no-confidence motion.
(4) 1965 → Pakistan started its aggression as it believed India was weakened by China War.
(5) Closeness between India and USSR increased → culminated with the 1971 treaty
(6) 1962 and 1965 led India to initiate a drive to modernize its armed forces and border infrastructure
(7) The Nuclear Test of 1974 can also be traced to the defeat in this war.

The 1962 war came like a shock to the 'Hindi-Chini' cheerleaders and has ever since made India cautious of its Eastern neighbour.

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18. The isolation of the region, its complex social character and its backwardness have all resulted in a complicated set of demands from different states of the North-East since independence. Discuss. **(250 words)** **15**

इस क्षेत्र के अलगाव, इसकी जटिल सामाजिक प्रकृति और इसके पिछड़ेपन की परिणति स्वतंत्रता के उपरांत से ही उत्तर-पूर्व के विभिन्न राज्यों के द्वारा मांगों के एक जटिल समुच्चय के रूप में हुई। चर्चा कीजिए।

North-East India consists of 8 states which are connected to Indian mainland with only a 22 km wide ~~nar~~ Siliguri corridor.

This has posed many challenges, as follows:

(1) Tripura, Manipur were never part of the British India empire and some sections demanded that they retain their sovereignty

(2) Sikkim accepted a full integration only in 1975.

(3) NEFA consisted of hundreds of distinct tribes who had diverse aspirations and this led to many strifes.

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(4) Imposition of Assamese and poor administrative support when an epidemic broke → led to Mizo rebellion

It finally ended with creation of separate Mizoram and Laldenga who led the rebellion became the CM.

(5) Naga Insurgency → got support from across the borders. Demanded united Nagalim with areas from Myanmar as well. Naga Peace Accord signed with NSCN(K) in 2015 has reduced strifes to some extent.

(6) Tripura, Assam → illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. The 1985 Assam Accords with AASU sought to solve the situation, but NRC still remains in a deadlock.

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The common issues faced by all states are:

(1) Geographical isolation
(2) Ethnic and tribal clashes.
(3) Poor infrastructure, less employment opportunities
(4) Borders are hubs of various illegal activities.

However, over the years efforts have been made to integrate NE with mainland:

(1) Greater connectivity → new airports through UDAN.
(2) Infrastructure → especially in the border areas.
(3) Bringing Green Revolution to North East scheme
(4) NE startup fund.
(5) Bezbaruah Committee to ensure no racial discrimination
(6) Separate ministry for NE

NE thus is being focussed on more, hoping for more integration

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margin

19. The reasons for the Bangladesh liberation war lay in the history of animosity, discrimination and socio-political conditions between the two wings of Pakistan. Comment. Also discuss India's contribution and role in the creation of Bangladesh. **(250 words)** 15

बांग्लादेश मुक्ति युद्ध के कारण पाकिस्तान के दो खण्डों के मध्य वैमनस्यता, भेदभाव एवं सामाजिक-राजनीतिक परिस्थितियों के इतिहास में सन्निहित हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, बांग्लादेश के निर्माण में भारत के योगदान और भूमिका की चर्चा कीजिए।

Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971 had its seeds in socio-economic and political issues that began in 1947 itself.

The animosity was due to:

(1) West Pakistan's hegemony in army, administration

(2) Urdu as the only national language.

(3) Claim of West-Pakistanis to be of Arab origin and thus racially superior to Bengalis

(4) Greater spending on West Pakistan → infrastructure, economic development.

(5) Funds generated from East Pakistan were also used for West

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The most recent causes were:
(1) Refusal of West Pakistan to accept the result of elections in which Mujibur Rahman's party won overall majority
(2) Arrest of Mujibur Rahman
(3) West Pakistan army's atrocities on Bengalis → indiscriminate killings of civilians, rapes, loot, plunder, torture.

India's contribution to the cause of Bangladesh includes:
(1) Initially India had avoided interfering as it was claimed to be an 'internal matter' and India did not want to give credence to West Pakistan's theory that India was seeking to destabilize Pakistan
(2) However, as the influx of refugees began, it put heavy pressure on India's economic

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resources, defence and security, law and order, land. Ethnic strifes with locals also ensued.

(3) India, then decided to train Bangladesh's Mukti Bahini

(4) Built international opinion in favour of Bangladesh

(5) Treaty with Russia

(6) India prolonged action till December → to ensure winter sets in and China cannot help or attack.

(7) The time was also used to mobilize, train, strategize the Indian forces.

(8) Once Bangladesh was liberated, 1972 Shimla Talks to discuss exchange of prisoners.

Ethnic and linguistic suppression led to separation of Bangladesh and India helped the same, which is still recognized by Bangladesh and it remains one of the strongest partner in neighbourhood.

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20. Fallouts of the Green Revolution, the nature of intervention of the central government to address Punjab's problem, and increased communalization of politics led to an eruption of militant violence in Punjab. Elaborate. **(250 words)** **15**

हरित क्रांति के प्रतिप्रभाव, पंजाब की समस्या को हल करने में केंद्र सरकार के हस्तक्षेप की प्रकृति एवं राजनीति के बढ़ते सांप्रदायिकरण के परिणामस्वरूप पंजाब में उग्रवादी हिंसा का प्रस्फुटन हुआ। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Punjab of 1970s and 1980s saw the birth and rise of militancy.

The causes can be traced to:

1) Akali Dal's failure to come to power even after separate Punjab got created in 1966.
→ fanned a certain section to demand secession

(2) Green Revolution → which led to rising inequality. The landless, small and marginal farmers were impoverished → no employment opportunities

(3) Pakistan → after the loss of Bangladesh, it got an opportunity to fan separatism in India. Economic and

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material support was given.

To neutralize the rising militancy, Indian government propped up Barnail Singh Bhindranwale.

However he soon became the Frankenstein's monster and the demand for Khalistan reached its crescendo.

The actions that followed:

1) AFSPA and massive hunt for various separatists
2) Led them to take shelter in Harmandir Sahib – Golden Temple → most sacred shrine
3) 'Operation Bluestar' was launched to flush out Khalistanis from the holy shrine → bloodshed in the sacred shrine drove the community to further anger, alienation.
4) Mrs. Indira Gandhi's assassinatio

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and the anti-Sikh riots of 1984 further fuelled violence.

(5) Sant-Longowal and Rajiv Gandhi were to sign a peace agreement but the former was assassinated before it could conclude.

(6) The situation was finally normalized through massive police action under KPS Gill → not before a significant portion of Punjab's youth fell to bullets.

The tragedy of Punjab is often quoted as the previous generation having fallen to militancy and the current slowly falling to drugs.

A holistic socio-economic and political empowerment is the need of the hour.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1058)

f Candidate	Neha		
Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	135596
	–	Date	–

INDEX TABLE

Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें **बीस** प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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marks.

1. While on one hand, urbanization is creating potential for social integration and economic opportunity, on the other hand, it is also leading to segregation and exclusion based on socio-economic status. Examine the paradox in context of Indian cities. What steps can be taken to make urban space truly inclusive?

जहाँ एक ओर शहरीकरण सामाजिक एकीकरण और आर्थिक अवसर की संभावनाएं सृजित कर रहा है, वहीं दूसरी ओर यह सामाजिक-आर्थिक अवस्थिति पर आधारित अलगाव और अपवर्जन को भी बढ़ावा दे रहा है। भारतीय शहरों के संदर्भ में इस विरोधाभास का परीक्षण कीजिए। शहरी क्षेत्रों को वास्तविक रूप से समावेशी बनाने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

Census 2011 estimates that 31% of India's population lives in urban areas.

Urbanization is creating potential for social integration and economic opportunity by:

(1) Secular pattern of living

(2) Commensality, shared transportation

(3) Occupations that need not be defined by caste → breakdown of Jajmani system

(4) Scope for unskilled, semi-skilled and high-skilled job opportunities

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(5) Close living and working conditions

However, at the same time, it is also seen to be leading to segregation and exclusion based on socio-economic conditions as:

(1) Proliferation of slums → upto 40% population in Mumbai, Kolkata lives in slums.

(2) Due to low income, poor live in slums → it is seen that these are majorly from backward castes and minorities

Thus, caste replaced by yet reinforced in class in urban areas.

(3) Unorganized sector → jobs depend on kinship network caste relations. Example: jobbers get their own region or caste

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people to fill in jobs.

(4) "Unclean" professions like sanitation work still sees lower caste workers.

The need is to make the urban space truly exclusive by:

(1) Low rent housing → to replace slum dwellings

(2) In-situ slum redevelopment → proposed in Smart City

(3) Transit oriented development

(4) Industry clusters to be formed with dedicated living areas.

(5) Organized sector employment

(6) Using SBM-Urban, AMRUT to improve infrastructure in urban areas.

Thus, a socially and culturally inclusive urban areas can be created.

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2. The achievement of Sustainable Development Goals depends crucially on, among other factors, formulating development strategies that reflect the current and future population dynamics. Discuss.

सतत विकास लक्ष्यों की प्राप्ति अन्य कारकों के साथ-साथ विकास रणनीति के निर्माण पर, जो वर्तमान और भविष्य की जनसंख्या गतिकी को दर्शाती है, पर अत्यधिक निर्भर करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

SDGs are 17 goals and 169 targets to be attained by 2030 with an aim of sustainable development.

The current and future population dynamics need to be taken into account while formulating the strateg. This can be seen as:

(1) Health for all → India is currently in midst of the demographic dividend, hence child care, maternal, adolescent RMNCH+A framework is important.

However, as ageing will take place, geriatric care and

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palliative care need to be taken into consideration.

(2) Education → almost 100% primary enrolment achieved with more youth, enrolment in secondary and tertiary education will ↑ and needs necessary policy implementati

(3) Clean energy, clean water, life on earth, life under water → changes in population density, income levels will change consumption and demand patterns.

(4) Infrastructure → Should be future-ready. Especially the transportation and housing sector needs to account for migratory patterns, especially from north to south.

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(5) Employment → special attention as more youth enter workforce.

Population dynamics

- Birth rate ↔
  - ↳ education
  - ↳ jobs
  - ↳ living infra
  - ↳ pressure on natural resources.
- death rate ↓
  - ↳ health care
  - ↳ old age security
  - ↳ infra special needs.
- migration
  - ↳ homes
  - ↳ transport
  - ↳ pressure on natural resources

Hence, each factor needs to be analysed wrt population dynamics and accordingly plan for SDGs.

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3. Globalization is a double-edged sword, which on one hand ensures economic growth but on the other hand, assaults national sovereignty, erodes local culture and threatens economic and social stability. Critically examine the statement in context of Indian society.

वैश्वीकरण एक दोधारी तलवार है, जो एक ओर आर्थिक संवृद्धि को सुनिश्चित करता है, किन्तु दूसरी ओर यह राष्ट्रीय संप्रभुता पर हमला करता है, स्थानीय संस्कृति को विनष्ट करता है तथा आर्थिक और सामाजिक स्थिरता के लिए खतरा उत्पन्न करता है। भारतीय समाज के संदर्भ में इस कथन का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Globalization is the interconnectedness of the economic, political and cultural systems of the world

It aids economic growth by

(1) different types of job opportunities

(2) greater choice to consumers

(3) faster technology propagation

(4) removal of trade barriers

However, it is a double-edged sword and can threate

① ECONOMY →

a) informalization

b) feminization of informal sector

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c) loss to smaller and cottage industries due to poor economies of scale.

d) Opens farm sector to imports → harmful to India as 50% population depends on agriculture

e) spreads consumerism

f) dumping, non-tarriff barriers, phyto sanitary rules hinder true free trade

② POLITICAL:

a) TNCs and MNCs have political influence due to huge money power.

b) cases of regime change supported by Western power to suit own interest.
Example: seen in Africa and Arab nations.

c) corruption, favoritism

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③ SOCIAL STABILITY:

→ due to economic and political influences.

→ "sharp power" is used by some nations to indirectly influence social stability

example: NGOs with foreign funding

④ CULTURE: McDonalization, homogenization

However, it is seen that many times the benefits outweigh the dangers.

Way forward:

(1) Rule-based international order so that all can benefit from globalization

(2) Respect for sovereignty.

(3) Glocalization → to prevent cultural isolation.

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4. Is the Indian notion of secularism, based on uniform respect for all religions by the state and separation of religion from public institutional practices, adequate to ensure a secular state? Discuss.

क्या राज्य द्वारा सभी धर्मों के प्रति एकसमान आदर और सार्वजनिक संस्थागत प्रक्रियाओं से धर्म के पृथक्करण संबंधी धर्मनिरपेक्षता की भारतीय अवधारणा एक धर्मनिरपेक्ष राज्य को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु पर्याप्त है? चर्चा कीजिए।

India is a secular state with freedom of religion under Articles 25 to 28

Indian notion of secularism is based on:

a) Uniform respect for all religions by the state

b) separation of religion from public institutional practices

c) freedom of religion is subject to restriction due to - safety, health, law and order

This is different from:

(1) French secularism → where religion is strictly restricted to private space and no place in political and social interactions

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(2) USA secularism → Iron curtain between state and religion and no interference by State whatsoever.

These 2 models are often cited as more "ideal" versions of secularism.

India's commitment to secularism has been tested in cases like:

(1) Shah Bano → SC ruled over the personal law as per Sharia to ensure dignity and livelihood to a divorced woman. However, political class overturned the decision → both actions have been subjects of intense debate

(2) Public order, law and order → debates over azaan, Ganesh, Durga Puja

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Pandals in open spaces and use of loudspeakers.

(3) Cow slaughter → though part of Article 47 of DPSP, is seen as attached to religious sentiments.

(4) Sabarimala, Haji Ali → entry of women issue.

(5) Ban on instant triple talaq

(6) No right to worship to Parsee women married to non-Parsees. → Gulrukh Gupta case

Thus, we see the issues that arise due to a "permeable membrane" between religion and State

However, considering India's unique diversity and culture this is the best model of secularism.

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5. There is an emerging pattern of a predominantly youthful north and a maturing south and west. Analyze the possible implications of such a demographic divergence on policy-making in India.

एक युवा प्रधान उत्तर तथा एक प्रौढ़ दक्षिण एवं पश्चिम का एक उभरता हुआ प्रतिरूप दृष्टिगत हो रहा है। भारत में नीति-निर्माण में इस तरह के जननांकिकीय भिन्नता (डेमोग्राफिक डाइवर्जेंस) के संभावित निहितार्थों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

NFHS IV showed that southern and western states have reached TFR of 2.1 or less while north is yet to reach it. This points to the predominantly youthful north and a relatively maturing south and west.

The policy implications include:

NORTH:

(1) Education →

→ more primary, secondary, tertiary enrolments.

→ need for skill training as larger population will enter job market.

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(2) Healthcare →
→ RMNCH+A care
→ family planning and welfare facilities.
(3) Infrastructure → greater stress due to rising number

SOUTH :

(1) Healthcare →
geriatric, palliative care will need greater attention
(2) Employment →
may lead to shortage of labour, especially in low skilled jobs. Example: Kochi metro workers were from Bihar and Assam.
(3) Infrastructure, social security facilities that cater to an ageing population
Migration will be seen from north to south

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to fulfil demands of the developed industries.

Hence it requires:

(1) Portability of PDS benefit
(2) Strict adherence to Inter-State Migrant workmen Act
(3) Social, cultural efforts to overcome linguistic barrie
(4) Rental, temporary housing facilities for migrants.
(5) Education in relatable language for migrant kids

Thus, the youthful north will need large focus on education and employment while the South and West may need migrants to maintai current development levels

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6. Given the significant increase in urban population, it is important that the nature and extent of urban poverty should be recognised and adequately addressed by public policy in India. Discuss in the context of problems faced by urban poor and the government programmes and initiatives taken to deal with them.

शहरी जनसंख्या में सार्थक वृद्धि को देखते हुए यह महत्वपूर्ण है कि भारत में लोक नीति द्वारा शहरी गरीबी की प्रकृति और विस्तार को पहचाना एवं पर्याप्त रूप से संबोधित किया जाना चाहिए। शहरी गरीबों द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं और उनसे निपटने हेतु सरकार के कार्यक्रमों और पहलों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

31% of India's population lives in urban areas and almost 25% of this population lives below poverty line pointing to the significant urban poverty.

SECC had identified 4 parameters to define the "deprived" households in urban areas.

The problems faced by urban poor include:

1) Poor housing → slum, urban crawl.

2) Poor infrastructure and utilities availability → inadequate toilets, water, electricity.

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(3) Poor social security → almost all are employed in unorganized sector

(4) Vulnerability to crime, especially girl child and women.

Various government programmes and initiatives to deal with the issues are:

(1) SMART city project

(2) Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana → focus on low cost housing, interest subsidies.

(3) in situ slum redevelopment

(4) Valmiki Awaas Yojana → for urban poor of backward castes.

(5) PMJJBY, PMJBY → insurance schemes at nominal fee

(6) Atal Pension Yojana → social security for old age.

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(7) AMRUT → water, transport, open spaces development.

(8) Mohalla Policing → to help prevent crimes in densily packed urban slums

(9) MUDRA loans → for small entrepreneurs.

(10) SWACCH Bharat (Urban).

(11) Suburbanization and development of counter magnets.

(12) Low cost transport.

The schemes thus aim at education, healthcare and livelihood security of urban poor. However, it is only when we focus on SMART villages that a true development can happe

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7. It is assumed that urbanization along with industrialization would induce certain essential changes in the caste-based system of stratification. In this context, discuss how the caste system has continued to persist and exert its influence in urban social life.

यह कल्पना की जाती है कि औद्योगीकरण के साथ-साथ शहरीकरण, जाति-आधारित व्यवस्था के स्तरीकरण में कुछ आवश्यक बदलाव को अभिप्रेरित करेगी। इस संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए कि कैसे जाति व्यवस्था शहरी सामाजिक जीवन में निरंतर बनी हुयी है और अपने प्रभाव को कायम रखे हुए है।

Urbanization and industrialization were assumed to be the harbingers of true socio-economic equality.

Yet, we see that both these factors have failed to eradicate caste-based system of stratification.

Caste system persists and exerts influence in urban social life by:

(1) Unorganized sector → employment often depends on kinship network, thus reinforcing caste and region networks. Inability to find jobs in organized sector

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(2) Urban small industry clusters are often divided as per the caste-based occupations → example: potters, dyers, tanners, butchers are some small industries, and see dominance of the traditional castes.

(3) Castization of class → urban society was expected to be class based instead of caste-based.

Yet we see an equivalence of caste-status and corresponding class-status in urban areas.

Example: poor are mostly from backward castes.

(4) Caste-wise division of slum settlements → due to kinship network, housing in slums also sees caste

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and religion play an important role.

(5) Vote bank politics → caste appeal is used by politicians for electoral gain.

(6) Occupational segregation → Sanitation workers and those in other "unclean" professions are from backward castes

(7) Separation of contact → due to different living arrangements. And also seen in cases will residential buildings have separate gates, lifts for maids.

Thus, caste though in the form of "class" very much exists in urban, industrial areas.

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8. Decline in child sex ratio, caused by various reasons, is a serious problem with severe socio-economic, demographic and cultural implications. Discuss in the context of India.

विभिन्न कारणों से बाल लिंगानुपात में गिरावट, विकट सामाजिक-आर्थिक, जननांकिकीय और सांस्कृतिक निहितार्थों के साथ, एक गंभीर समस्या है। भारतीय संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

India's child sex ratio is 919 females per 1000 males and is a worrying statistic.

The causes for the same are as follows:

(1) Female infanticide

(2) Severe neglect of girl child → less access to nutrition, healthcare.

(3) Son metapreferance → families may not have more children once they have the desired number of sons.

With small families preferred among urban, educated sections, one male child may be enough.

(4) Early next pregnancy

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after the birth of girl child → reduced focus on the child due to mother's healthcare needs in pregnanc

The implications of the same are:

(1) Imbalanced sex ratio in youth → creates shortag of brides.

Practice of getting brides from poor states like Bihar Jharkhand for grooms in Haryana is seen even now

(2) Rising crime and sexual violence against women

(3) Androgyny in extreme cases is seen.

(4) Missing girls phenomenon

Efforts are being made to reverse this trend. It

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needs a mix of policy, social and cultural change:

(1) Beti Bachao Beti Padhao → to celebrate the girl child

(2) Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana → saving scheme for education, marriage of girl

(3) Role models being roped in → example: Phogat sisters

(4) Religious leaders, caste panchayats like khap are also being involved.

(5) Schemes like ICDS, PMSMY, MAA, MDM to provide affordable or free food and healthcare facilities.

Only a gender-balanced society can expect to be called a "developed" society and India needs to strive for the same.

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9. The surge in urban crimes is a grim reminder of the unplanned & rapid nature of urbanization in India. Discuss. Also, list measures that can be taken to tackle the issue of urban crimes in India.

शहरी अपराधों में बढ़ोतरी भारत में शहरीकरण की अनियोजित और तीव्र प्रकृति की विकटता का एक सूचक है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में शहरी अपराधों के मुद्दे से निपटने के लिए अपनाये जा सकने वाले उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Urbanization, while a source of economic development can also be a source of growing crime rates.

The surge in urban crimes is a grim reminder of all that is wrong with the urbanization in India. Some causes include:

(1) Poor living conditions → slums, urban crawl.

(2) Low wages, unorganized sector proliferation, no income security

(3) Relatively anonymous nature of urban society

(4) Poor law and order implementation due to

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lack of manpower, facilities

(5) Relative deprivation →
Antilla and Slum are next to each other festering frustration, relative poverty

(6) Urban counter culture →
example: joining a "gang" was a 'prestigious' thing in Mumbai of 1980s.

(7) Heavy influx of migrants
→ makes tracking difficult

These problems have been caused due to:

(1) Inadequate low housing

(2) Poor future planning →
infrastructure cannot handle migration numbers.

(3) Slow response to changing needs by authorities

The measures to address issue of urban

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crimes are:

(1) Mohalla policing → involve local community in law and order maintenance.

(2) Mobile vans for patrol

(3) Eyes and ears on the ground → network of khabris.

(4) Avenues for education, employment, skill development for youth.

(5) Involve local religious leaders, NGOs, social services

(6) Showcase good role models to the youngsters.

(7) Improve basic amenities in urban slums.

Urban areas are prone to "Broken Window" syndrome and thus the need is to prevent and detect urban crime.

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10. Care for the elderly is fast emerging as a critical element of both public and private concern. Discuss in the context of India's increasing population of the elderly.

वृद्धों की देखभाल सार्वजनिक और निजी दोनों क्षेत्रों हेतु तेजी से चिंता के एक नाजुक विषय के रूप में उभर रहा है। भारत में वृद्धों की बढ़ती जनसंख्या के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

According to 2011 census, 8% of India's population is above 60 years of age.

Rising life expectancy and lower death rates are necessitating an urgent focus on elderly care.

The areas to note are:

(1) Geriatric care → medical services to treat age related conditions like dementia, osteoporosis, Parkinsons.

(2) Home care → to assist elders who are unable to perform daily activities by themselves.

(3) Public infrastructure → roads, buildings, parks

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must be designed in such a way that elders can access them easily.

Printing on consumer good items can be large for easy reading by elderly.

AADHAR authentication has shown issues due to fading fingerprints in old age → alternate method needed

(4) Social security → Old age pension, health insurance

Thus, both private and public efforts are needed to handle this concern.

The measures taken by government include:

(1) Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007

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(2) Pradhan Mantri Vayo Vandana Yojana → pension
(3) Widow pension by some state governments
(4) free supply of living aids to elderly BPL.
(5) Old age pension for BPL.

Way forward:

(1) Geriatric care as a separate faculty in medical education
(2) Old age homes with healthcare facilities to be encouraged in both public and PPP format.
(3) Multi-generational homes.
(4) Avenues to use the rich wisdom of the elderly → turn them into a resource.

Ageing is not just a natural phenomenon but a social one and hence needs a social solution

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11. Rapid urbanization not only requires addressing the deficits in urban areas but also addressing those that are created because of it in rural areas. Comment. Also, evaluate the success of government programmes to reduce the stress on rural population because of urbanization.

तीव्र शहरीकरण न केवल शहरी क्षेत्रों के अभावों को दूर करने की मांग करता है अपितु इसके कारण ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में व्युत्पन्न कमियों से निपटना भी आवश्यक बनाता हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, शहरीकरण के कारण ग्रामीण आबादी पर पड़ने वाले दबाव को कम करने हेतु सरकारी योजनाओं की सफलता का भी मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Census 2011 estimates that 31% population of India lives in urban areas and is expected to touch 50% by 2050, pointing to rapid urbanization.

This requires addressing deficits in urban areas like:

(1) low cost housing
(2) transit oriented development
(3) Affordable rental homes.
(4) Redevelopment of slums.
(5) Social security benefits portability → PDS facility migrant
(6) Education, Skill training
(7) Reduce unemployment and underemployment in urban areas.

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However, focus is also needed on the deficits in rural areas due to rapid urbanization. These include:

(1) <u>feminization of agriculture</u>
→ due to largely male oriented migration to cities

(2) Greater % of old people living alone in rural areas.

(3) More women headed household

(4) "<u>Ghost villages</u>" in states like Uttarakhand where entire villages are empty.

(5) Decreasing employment opportunities, further leading to urban stress and urbanization

(6) Low or far-away facilities and amenities like healthcare, education, colleges.

The following programmes have been launched to reduce stress on rural population

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(1) ARYA → Attaining and retaining youth in agriculture → to reduce shortage of farm workers and develop skilled farmers.

(2) Primary health centres to be converted to health and wellness centres. Every district hospital's tertiary care upgraded plan in PPP.

(3) "Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana"

(4) Irrigation, mechanization to reduce labour intensity of farm sector.

(5) SECC identified rural poor on 11 parameters including female headed, no youth HHs → special schemes for deprived.

However, the pace of urbanization remains steady and only with "smart villages", through Bharatnet type of initiatives can lead to holistic development.

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12. The relegation of women to private sphere of life is the main cause behind gender inequality and exploitation in India. Discuss.

महिलाओं को जीवन के निजी क्षेत्र तक सीमित करना, भारत में लैंगिक असमानता और शोषण के पीछे मुख्य कारण है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian society has been patriarchal with women expected to play the traditional role of home maker and look after household and child rearing.

This relegation of women to private sphere of life is demonstrated by:

a) 29% female labour force participation → lower than countries like Bangladesh.

b) Almost 24% wage gap, one of the highest in the world.

c) Pink collarization of jobs → even in public sphere, limited to selected career paths.

This is seen as a cause behind gender inequality and exploitation in India as:

(1) Birth of girl child is not

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welcomed → viewed as a burden who does not contribu to household income.

(2) Early marriages, dowry → due to no economic contributio and low status

(3) Household work is not valued and not viewed as a monetary contribution

(4) Economic dependence on father, brothers, husband, son in different life stages → makes them vulnerable to violence and exploitation

(5) Low focus on education and skill development → furth propagating the cycle of economic dependence.

(6) Poor participation in decision-making in house.

(7) Female labour is seen as flexible labour → thus even when working, are limited

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to low paying, unorganized sector - Low bargaining power

(8) Inability to make decisions on healthcare, nutrition due to no economic power → further leads to poor health.

Contribution of women's "unpaid work" is estimated to be almost equal to 50% of the GDP. Yet the view that private sphere work is unimportant leads to viewing women as not contributing economically.

And it is this economic sub-status that reinforces patriarchy and son-preference thus causing gender inequality and exploitation

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13. Education is an important avenue for uplifting the socio-economic status of the Scheduled Tribes. In this context, highlight the challenges faced in providing education to tribals in India. Also, suggest some measures for improvement of tribal education.

अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक अवस्थिति में उत्थान के लिए शिक्षा एक महत्त्वपूर्ण मार्ग है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में जनजातियों को शिक्षा प्रदान करने में सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, जनजातियों की शिक्षा में सुधार के लिए कुछ उपाय सुझाइए।

Scheduled Tribes remain the most deprived community in parameters such as education healthcare, employment even after seven decades of independe

Education is an important avenue that can help in uplifting the socio-economic status of STs.

However, challenges faced in the same include:

(1) Absence of curriculum that students can relate to and find useful in pursuing life skills and employment
→ causes low interest, or drop-outs from school.

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(2) Migratory nature of certain tribes like Bakarwals, Banjara → affects child attendance.

(3) Absence of textbooks in tribal languages → Often they have no option but to study state language which may be alien.

(4) Remote dwellings → accessibility to school may be an issue, especially in harsh weather conditions.

(5) Recent Act has mandated that teachers in tribal areas be from tribal community itself → lack of adequate qualified teachers.

(6) Poverty → need to join employment or assist in household duties.

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Measures to improve the tribal education are:

(1) More Eklavya model residency schools.

(2) Usage of technology to convert course books into tribal languages.

(3) Vocational studies, work-oriented curriculum.

(4) Curriculum should incorpo greater local elements

(5) Freeships, Scholarships from Secondary level as RTE is only till age 14

(6) Increase digital literacy → can access SWAYAM, MOOCs → solves accessibility issues.

(7) Teacher training

Education can truly lead to social change and needs to be focussed upon in the context of tribals

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14. Even though millions have been lifted out of poverty in recent decades, the rise in inequality may have dire consequences for the society. Explain in the light of recent studies highlighting this increasing trend.

हालाँकि हालिया दशकों में लाखों लोगों को गरीबी से बाहर निकाला गया है, लेकिन असमानता में वृद्धि के समाज के लिए खतरनाक परिणाम हो सकते हैं। इस बढ़ती हुई प्रवृत्ति पर प्रकाश डालते हुए हालिया अध्ययनों के आलोक में व्याख्या कीजिए।

A survey reported that Top 1% own 47% of assets in India, pointing to the sharp inequality in the counte

While the % of poor has rapidly fallen and it is estimated that only 21% population lives below the poverty line, the high inequality is a concern.

This can cause issues:

1) Relative deprivation → felt very strongly. May lead to resorting to non-legal means to attain success.

Rising crime, violence, juvenile delinquency are some possible effects.

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(2) Possibility of social unrest → can cause law and order issue, instability of the political class.

Marx called this class polarization which then leads to proletariat uprising

(3) Immoral means to acquire wealth → corruption, bribery, black money are justified in the name of the accumulation of wealth by the upper classes.

(4) Failure of socialist vision as enshrined in the constitution

(5) Resort to ascriptive factors like caste, religion as means of social solidarity and support to fight poverty.

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(6) Vote bank politics by offering freebies gets strength

Various measures are being taken to tackle this growing inequality:

1) Doubling farmer income by 2022

2) Incentives to formal sector for employment generation

3) Financial assistance, training for self employment → PMKVY, DDU-GKY, MUDRA loans.

4) Cess on income of HNIs.

5) Highest GST + additional surcharge on luxury items

(6) Crackdown on black money

- Hence, merely uplifting people out of poverty isn't enough, ensuring a decent standard of living is needed

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15. Growing 'informalization of labour market' is perceived as a barrier to realising economic potential as well as a hindrance to longrun economic development and poverty reduction. Discuss.

श्रम बाज़ार के बढ़ते अनौपचारीकरण' को आर्थिक संभाव्यता को साकार करने में एक अवरोध के साथ-साथ दीर्घकालिक आर्थिक विकास तथा गरीबी न्यूनीकरण में एक व्यवधान के रूप में देखा जाता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

'Informalization of labour market' is the phenomenon of greater number of employment opportunities being created in the informal sector than the formal sector.

While it has some advantages like:

(1) low cost manufacturing
(2) low entry barriers
(3) low skills, especially helpful for women.

it is generally agreed that this is a barrier to longrun growth. As:

(1) Factors of production are diverted to informal sector instead of formal sector

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(2) Low wages, poor skill development, career path, no social security benefits → perpetuates the cycle of poverty.

(3) Hinders growth of investment in formal sector → low skill, low wage manufacturing becomes the key, instead of technologically advanced industries.

(4) Vulnerable to competition → Thailand, Bangladesh have now taken away the jobs in informal sector in Textile, footwear industry.

Low cost, low wage is an easy to replicate advantage and hence competition is high. This can lead to massive layoffs and unemployment

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once the industries close.

Thus, only an increased focus on formal sector can help improve the labour market's:

(1) Competitiveness

(2) Niche advantage → example: china in electronics circuit manufacturing

(3) Higher wages, better living standards.

Way forward:

Informalization, though unavoidable should not be allowed to replace formal sector.

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16. The focus on risk factors that appear at a young age and timely interventions is the key to preventing child delinquency and its escalation into chronic criminality. Analyse the statement with respect to growing incidences of child delinquency in context of India.

कम उम्र में दिखाई पड़ने वाले जोखिम कारकों पर ध्यान तथा समय पर हस्तक्षेप बाल अपराध एवं उनके बढ़कर स्थायी अपराधी बनने के निवारण की कुंजी है। भारत के संदर्भ में बाल अपराध की बढ़ती घटनाओं के परिप्रेक्ष्य में इस कथन का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Of the total crimes committed in India, NCRB shows that about 4% are committed by minors (<18)

Child delinquency risk factors include:

(1) Poverty, unemployed family

(2) Broken families

(3) Improper role models, media influence.

(4) Influence of adult family or friend members.

(5) Inadequate watch or control of parents → in cases where children are left alone at home.

(6) Contra culture that treats crime as cool.

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(7) Criminal gangs hire minors as they are less likely to be suspected and easy to get lighter punish
(8) Drop out from school.

Timely interventions that can make a differenc include :

(1) Moral values, ethics educat right from school level
(2) Intervention by teachers, family when such a case may be possible.
(3) Efforts to reduce poverty, unemployment among adut
(4) Education, skill training, sports → activities to channelize energy of the youngsters.

Example: Nehru Yuva Kend

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Scout and Guides, NCC.
(5) Correct role models.

Juvenile Justice Act 2015 lays out guidelines to deal with juvenile delinquency like:
(1) Panel assessment if to be charged as adult in case of heinous crime.
(2) Safe house
(3) Rehabilitation facilities after release.

Howard Becker's Labelling Theory may come into picture and hence it is very important to not demonize child delinquency which may then lead to chronic criminality in absence of alternate avenues

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17. Digital technology can either be a game changer for disadvantaged children or yet another dividing line that prevents children from fulfilling their potential. Discuss.

डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकी या तो वंचित बच्चों के लिए एक दिशा-परिवर्तक हो सकती है या फिर एक और बांटने वाली रेखा बन सकती है जो बच्चों को उनकी संभावनाओं की प्राप्ति से रोकती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India currently has over 400 million internet users, and the number is only growing further.

Digital technology can be a game changer for disadvantaged children by

(1) SWAYAM, MOOCs, SWAYAM-PRABHA → online and TV education. Can overcome shortage of teachers in remote areas.

(2) Social media → avenue to raise awareness, learn more about the world, showcase talent.

Example: Youtube videos, bloggers, instagram influenc

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(3) Can provide employment opportunities right from home → outsourcing jobs.

(4) Children with low vision, hearing issues can enhance their learning experience using digital technologies.

However, at the same time, this technology can also become yet another dividing line as:

(1) "Digital Divide" → poor access to technology and poor literacy.

Female children have much lower access to mobile phones, internet, PC

(2) Expensive hardware → phones, computers. Beneficial

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to the rich and middle class children.

(3) Non availability of content in Indian languages

→ benefits English educated, mainly urban and well-to-do children.

(4) May lead to neglect of traditional infrastructure and over reliance on digital technology.

Thus, Bharatnet, CSC are measures that need acceleration to prevent digital technology from becoming yet another disadvantage to poor children

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18. The demand by nativist political parties and movements that employment preferences be given to "local" people has raised certain issues. Examine the statement in the context of 'son of soil theory' in India. Also discuss, why such demands develop in some states and cities and not in others.

देशीय राजनीतिक दलों और आंदोलनों द्वारा "स्थानीय" लोगों को रोजगार में प्राथमिकता देने की मांग ने कुछ निश्चित मुद्दों को उठाया है। भारत में 'मिट्टी के लाल के सिद्धांत' के संदर्भ में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि ऐसी मांगें कुछ राज्यों और शहरों में हीं क्यूँ विकसित होती हैं, अन्य में नहीं।

'Son of soil theory' talks about greater preference to local people, especially in the area of employment.

The movement has gained prominence in states like Maharashtra, Assam and Karnataka.

The demands develop due to:

(1) Lower employment opportunities in the semi-skilled sector, especially for lower middle class section → example: taxi drivers, street vendors, small traders.

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(2) Political parties who take advantage of the discontent and channelize it for political mileage and gain → example: Shiv Sena, MNS in Maharashtra, AASU, AGP in Assam.

(3) Relative deprivation → when the "outsiders" are perceived to be more prosperous than locals. Example: Marwaris, Bengalis in Assam.

They do not develop in other states inspite of heavy in-migration due to:

(1) Entrepreneurial spirit of locals → example: Gujarat does not have demand among locals for lower-end jobs

(2) Shortage of labour → for farm work, construction work in prosperous states like Punjab, Haryana, Kerala.

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(3) Heavy out-migration from the state → example: from Kerala to Gulf, Telangana to West, thus creates demand for additional labour force.

India is a union of states with the constitution providing right to settle and employment in any part of the country.

The issues by such demands,

(1) Undermining constitution
(2) Possibility of violence
(3) Fear psychosis among migrants
(4) Political activism, rhetorics
(5) Possible shortage of labour

example: in Gujarat industrial hubs when migrants fled.

Way forward:

(1) Balanced economic development
(2) Create opportunities in states like UP, Bihar where migrants come from.
(3) Law and order maintenance

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19. The mixing of caste and politics resulting into 'politicization of caste' and 'casteization of politics' in contemporary India has become a grave challenge to our democracy. Comment.

समकालीन भारत में जाति तथा राजनीति के मिश्रण के परिणामस्वरूप होने वाला 'जाति का राजनीतिकरण' तथा 'राजनीति का जातिकरण' हमारे लोकतंत्र के सामने एक गंभीर चुनौती बन गया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Caste and politics are closely intertwined in the Indian democracy.

The initial years of democracy saw less focus on caste as the leaders were committed to constitution values

Post-1967 era saw the emergence of several local political parties and caste became a unifying factor to cater to a sure vote bank

The Mandal agitation was the pinnacle of this, and this is called 'politicization of caste'.

It was expected that caste would undergo these changes according to developme

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(1) Constitutional mandates → removal of caste from social sphere.

(2) Economic, educational development → removal of caste from private sphere.

(3) India as a developed economy → caste replaced by class.

However, only stage 1 has somewhat been achieved.

The reason for casteization of politics include:

(1) Need for vote bank

(2) Lower literacy → easy to convince that secular interests of different castes differ

(3) Historical injustice → even in the initial years, the presence of SC/ST politicians in higher rungs of national parties like Congress was minima

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(4) Perceived indifference to plight of own caste by others → resulted in many politicians forming own political parties catering to caste base. Example: BSP, RPI (A).

(5) Dynasty politics → strengthens caste-based identity

(6) Affirmative Action → has made caste an important part of every narrative

(7) Reservations in Tier 3 bodies → made the consciousness of caste at local levels, permeate to local and then state, national politics.

With newer generation political outfits like Patidar Samiti, Savarna outfit, Brahmin Mahasabha, it seems like caste is here to stay in Indian politics.

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20. Explaining the importance of middle class in the developmental process of a country, discuss the grounds on which the Indian middle class is criticized by some.

किसी देश की विकास प्रक्रिया में मध्यम वर्ग के महत्व की व्याख्या करते हुए, उन आधारों की चर्चा कीजिए जिन पर कुछ लोगों के द्वारा भारतीय मध्यम वर्ग की आलोचना की जाती है।

India has a strong 30% middle class and is ever growing section.

The importance of middle class in developmental process:

(1) Social reforms → 18th, 19th century reforms were spear-headed by the middle class intellegentsia

(2) labour force → for the newly industrializing India. Engineers, management graduates came from middle class.

(3) Saving → contributed to funds for infrastructure development and welfare schemes by prudent saving in Banks, KVPs, PPFs.

(4) Tax → Only 6% Indians pay

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tax and this is an important source of government revenue.

(5) Pressure group → at the forefront to demand changes in government policies.
Example: price-rise agitation, anti-rape agitation, anti-dowry agitation, LGBTQ+ rights

However, the group is also seeing criticism due to:

(1) Consumerism culture and conspicuous consumption

(2) Withdrawal of middle class from spheres of public education and healthcare facilities → hence less accountability of government in these 2 areas.

(3) Leading to trade deficit → due to increased imports to cater to gold, electronics demand.

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(4) Greater % of subsidies is estimated to be benefitting the middle class rather than poor → example: subsidised water, electricity, transport.

(5) Apathy to political process → seen by less % voting in middle class areas compared to slums and poor tenantments

(6) Contributing to brain drain

The middle class is called a buffer between the 2 classes and acts as a safety valve against class polarization.

It needs to play its role to ensure the rising inequality does not lead to polarization

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1063)

Name of Candidate	Neha		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	135596
Center	—	Date	—

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
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9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें **बीस** प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Explaining the significance of RCEP, discuss various aspects of India's engagement in this initiative. (150 words) 10

RCEP के महत्व की व्याख्या करते हुए, इस पहल में भारत की सहभागिता के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

RCEP is the proposed trade agreement between ASEAN and its 6 FTA partners → India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand.

Its significance includes:

(1) It will be the largest FTA in the world → almost 40% GDP.

(2) In absence of FTA with China, it will serve as one.

(3) covers goods, services, people movements.

The negotiations have been halted mainly due to India's objections due to:

(1) Demand to eliminate tarrifs for almost 92% goods, India is ready for upto 86% goods and even lesser for China

(2) Australia and NZ demand to

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open agriculture and dairy imports.

(3) Refusal of countries to consider more lenient move of people and services.

(4) Demand for TRIPS+ IPR regime which can harm India's pharma sector

(5) ISDM → India wants litigation in Indian courts for atleast 5 years before approaching foreign courts.

(6) E-commerce → India is not open to allow free trade in e-commerce.

Way forward:

Negotiations to solve the issues at hand, and tie the proposed FTA with domestic policies to protect market and reduce trade deficit.

RCEP can help increase India's service exports if negotiated well.

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2. It has been acknowledged widely that smart power is the best possible way for achieving intended foreign policy outcomes. Examine in the context of India. **(150 words) 10**

यह व्यापक रूप से स्वीकार किया गया है कि स्मार्ट पावर विदेश नीति के अपेक्षित परिणामों को प्राप्त करने का सर्वोत्तम संभव तरीका है। भारत के संदर्भ में इसका परीक्षण कीजिए।

Smart power is the combination of soft power (culture, values, diaspora) and hard power (economy, defence)

Smart power is the best way for achieving intended foreign policy outcomes as demonstrated by India in:

(1) SAARC countries minus Pakistan → leveraging on cultural ties and providing economic assistance, lines of credit, infrastructure building

(2) Indian Ocean Region → through initiatives like "Mausam" for cultural ties and building bases like Agalega, Assumption, agreements on Duqm, Chabahar along with strengthened navy to act as "Net security provider"

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(3) ASEAN → "Buddhist circuit" and infrastructure projects, defence cooperation, maritime exercises like SIMBEX, CORPAT.

(4) West Asia → strong Indian diaspora and its contribution to nation building there has helped India increase economic and cultural ties → investments in NIIF, defence cooperations

(5) Africa → old cultural ties, strong diaspora, along with Africa network by India which provides tele-education, tele-medicine, HRD

(6) Central Asia → scholarships under ITEC for skill training, proposal for e-network.

Thus, we see India using Smart power to increase its influence in various nations. USA and Europe are areas where further work can be done.

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3. On the one hand, water has the potential of bringing closer regional integration in South Asia, on the other it has remained symbolic of the trust deficit between the countries in India's neighbourhood. Analyse.

(150 words) 10

जहां एक ओर, जल में दक्षिण एशिया में क्षेत्रीय एकीकरण को और अधिक घनिष्ट बनाने की क्षमता है, वहीं दूसरी ओर यह भारत के पड़ोसी देशों के बीच विश्वास की कमी का प्रतीक रहा है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Transnational rivers are a source of both cooperation and conflict.

In South Asia, we see:

(1) Pakistan → Indus Water Treaty has survived multiple wars, insurgency and terrorism. However Pakistan's objection to Kishenganga, Ratle projects inspite of Permanent Indus commission's approval shows the mistrust

(2) China → on Doklam standoff, china refused to share the hydrography data of Brahmaputra. India fears the dams being constructed by China can be used to flood NE

(3) Bangladesh → Ganga water treaty is a successful agreement

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but India's internal politics have prevented Teesta agreement.

Bangladesh opposes the Tipaimukh project fearing water loss.

(4) China has refused to provide data for all year and only shares 4 months data of Brahmaputra. This leads to mistrust in lower riparian India, Bangladesh.

(5) Bhutan → has huge hydro-electricity potential but delay in projects has led to cost rise and almost 80% foreign debt to India.

Countries are nothing but artificially separated lands and the natural entities like rivers do not recognize any countries.

Hence transparency, mutual agreement and environmental care needs to be incorporated in water issues across South Asia.

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4. Despite a strong case for a Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) between India and the European Union (EU), negotiations have been stuck for long owing to multiple factors. Analyse. (150 words) 10

भारत और यूरोपीय संघ (EU) के बीच व्यापक आधार वाले व्यापार और निवेश समझौते (ब्रॉडबेस्ड ट्रेड एंड इन्वेस्टमेंट अग्रीमेंट: BTIA) हेतु सुदृढ़ परिस्थितियां होने के बावजूद कई कारकों के चलते वार्ता लम्बे समय से अटकी हुयी है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India unilaterally terminated its trade agreements and has been negotiating BTIA with EU ever since.

EU can be a market for Indian services and migrants while EU can export its technical expertise, strengthening the cause for a BTIA. However the negotiations have been stuck owing to:

(1) Demand for greater access and reduced tarrifs for wine, automobiles, spirits by the EU.

(2) Reluctance of EU for greater access to India's service exports and short term work visas

(3) EU not granting India "Data Safe Status"

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(4) TRIPS + IPR regime demanded which will harm India's pharma sector → demand to remove compulsory licensing and evergreening clause

(5) ISDM → Investor State dispute redressal mechanism. India wants companies to litigate in Indian courts for 5 years before foreign courts.

(6) Possibility of agriculture exports from EU, which are highly subsidized and may affect Indian agro sector.

(7) Demand by EU of opening agriculture and government procurement.

Hence, the differences over issues like service, agriculture, IPR and litigation are halting the BTIA negotiations and India needs to refer to its model BTA to protect own interest

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5. Non-alignment, though much debated, has retained its significance over the years in India's foreign policy engagements. Comment.

(150 words) 10

गुट-निरपेक्षता ने काफी विवादित होने के बावजूद भारत की विदेश नीति संबंधी विषयों में वर्षों से अपना महत्व बनाए रखा है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Non-alignment, at the time of NAM referred to not aligning either with USA or USSR.

Though NAM is no longer relevant in the increasingly multipolar, globalized world, non-alignment as a policy is very much relevant.

It can be seen in India's foreign policy engagements like

1) Defence cooperation with both USA and Russia → India even got CAATSA waiver from USA to buy S400 from Russia

(2) Diplomatic ties with Iran, Saudi Arabia, Israel → 3 mutually antagonistic players. Saudi contributes to remittances, energy security, counter terrorism cooperation.

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Israel has become a defence partner and also for water management, R&D, innovation, Palestine relationship has been dehyphenated and India retains support for 2 nation theory.

Iran is a gateway to Afghan and Central Asia.

This non-aligned approach has helped India to:

(1) Vote against Israel in UN yet retain the partnership.

(2) Vote in favour of Russia in Syria issue without antagonising USA.

However, India's stances in some cases like Crimea and Iran sanctions were in support of Russia and USA respectively instead of based on traditional commitment to non-violence, sovereignty.

Yet, non alignment remains a bedrock of India's foreign policy

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6. India–Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950 forms the bedrock of the India-Nepal relations. However, considering recent changes in the region, revising the treaty would be a prudent step. Analyse. **(150 words) 10**

भारत-नेपाल शांति एवं मैत्री संधि, 1950 भारत-नेपाल संबंधों की आधारशिला निर्मित करती है। यद्यपि, इस क्षेत्र में हाल में हुए परिवर्तनों पर विचार करते हुए, इस संधि में संशोधन करना एक विवेकपूर्ण कदम होगा। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India and Nepal share a 'roti-beti' relationship and the Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950 is a testimony to the same.

However, certain issues in the region in recent times include:

(1) Coming to power of a united communist alliance in Nepal, widely perceived as anti-India and its closeness to China.

(2) Amendment to Nepal's constitution which does not take into account the aspirations of Madhesis → who have ties to India.

(3) China's infrastructure projects in Nepal → railnetwork to Tibet

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broadband facility, access to Chinese ports to the land locked Nepal, Nepal as a part of BRI.

(4) Use of open border to smuggle goods from China and also for terrorists, FICN from Pakistan.

However, a Nepal under China's influence would threaten India's security interests and the need is to make efforts to mend the relationship.

Way forward:

(1) Rebuild the trust lost due to blockade which was perceived as India backed

(2) No interference in the constitution making process and not to be seen as backing Madhesis.

(3) Use soft power to counter China's hard power.

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7. Accession to the Ashgabat agreement is valuable for connecting India to its extended neighbourhood. What is the Ashgabat Agreement? Assess its significance for India. (150 words) 10

अश्गाबात समझौते में शामिल होना वस्तुतः भारत के लिए अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस से जुड़ने की दृष्टि से मूल्यवान है। अश्गाबात समझौता क्या है? भारत के लिए इसके महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Ashgabat agreement is a connectivity project between Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakstan, Iran and Oman. India has recently joined it.

The project aims to be a multimodal transit project.

Its significance to India is:

(1) Route to Central Asia → in absence of direct land border, India-Central Asia trade is only $ 2 Bn. This can increase as Central Asia has Uranium in Kazakstan, gold in Uzbekistan and other mineral resources too

(2) Connect to Afghanistan → will increase utilization of Chabahar to trade with Afghan and other Central Asian neighbours

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from Afghanistan.

(3) Alternate to choke points of Strait of Hormuz and Bab-Al-Mandeb

(4) Can design alternate gas pipeline instead of TAPI which has security concerns.

(5) Connect to Caspian littorals → from Kazakh and Turkmenistan. The trade to caspian littorals like Armenia, Georgia is possible

(6) Can help increase potential of INSTC → can cover entire Central Asia and upto Europe

· India is looking at increasing its presence in Central Asia and Ashgabat Agreement can be the perfect conduit for the same.

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8. The peace initiative of the Afghan government has raised some difficulties for India, nonetheless India's engagement with Afghanistan is strong enough to withstand such difficulties. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

अफगान सरकार की शांति पहल ने भारत के लिए कुछ कठिनाइयां उत्पन्न की हैं, इसके बावजूद भी अफगानिस्तान के साथ भारत की भागीदारी इस प्रकार की कठिनाइयों का सामना करने हेतु पर्याप्त रूप से सशक्त है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India has always supported an Afghan-owned, Afghan-led peace and reconciliation process.

However, the peace initiative of Afghan government has issues of:

(1) Afghan government is ready for discussions with Taliban → contrary to India's stance of stopping all violence before any talks can be started

(2) Readiness for power sharing agreement with Taliban → this is also backed by Pak, USA, Russia, China.

India, unlike all these, does not differentiate between 'Good Taliban' and 'Bad Taliban'.

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(3) Power struggle within the elected government → between Hamid Karzai and Abdullah Abdullah further complicates the situation.

However, the Indo-Afghan relation is strong enough as:

(1) India's policy of non-alignment

(2) India is not a direct party to proposed talks with Taliban but only an observer

(3) India has spent almost $2 Bn on infra development in Afghanistan → Parliament, Salma Dam, Delaram-Zaranj Highway.

(4) Trade will pick up soon as Chabahar has been made operational.

(5) India's assistance in training of Afghan police and security forces.

A stable Afghanistan is desired by all and this may necessitate involving all stakeholders, even Taliban

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9. The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a natural choice for India to fulfill key foreign policy priorities. In this context, discuss the issues behind hitherto slow progress and the reasons for reinvigorated optimism regarding BIMSTEC.

(150 words) 10

बहु-क्षेत्रीय तकनीकी एवं आर्थिक सहयोग के लिए बंगाल की खाड़ी पहल (BIMSTEC), भारत के लिए अपनी विदेश नीति संबंधी प्रमुख प्राथमिकताओं की पूर्ति हेतु एक स्वाभाविक चयन है। इस संदर्भ में, अब तक हुई धीमी प्रगति के पीछे निहित मुद्दों और BIMSTEC के संबंध में पुनर्जीवित होते आशावाद की चर्चा कीजिए।

With the impasse over SAARC due to Pakistan's presence BIMSTEC is the natural platfor for India to deliberate on its foreign policy initiatives in its neighbourhood.

However, the progress had been slow hitherto due to:

(1) India's greater interest in SAARC and Myanmar, Thailand's greater interest in ASEAN

(2) Too many topics → over 16 common areas had been identified leading to over burdening

(3) No regular meetings → only 4 meetings at national head level since inception.

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(4) No permanent secretariat or staff.
(5) Political instability in some member countries.

However, there is now a reinvigorated optimism about BIMSTEC due to:
(1) India's "Act East" policy
(2) Bangladesh's rise economically and its desire to play a bigger role in neighbourhood
→ strong political leadership of Begum Shaikh Hasina
(3) Identification of only 6 areas on which the initiative should focus → as proposed by Thailand
→ like trade, maritime security, commerce, connectivity
(4) Permanent Secretariat in Dhaka.

BIMSTEC can be India's bridge to ASEAN and a substitute to SAARC. However need to look at other ways of engaging with Pak, Afghan, Maldives

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10. Highlighting its mandate, discuss the significance of International Solar Alliance in positioning India to a key global leadership role.

(150 words) 10

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सौर गठबंधन के अधिदेश पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत को एक प्रमुख वैश्विक नेतृत्वकर्ता की भूमिका में स्थान दिलाने में इसके महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

International Solar Alliance is an alliance of countries between Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn to increase adoption of Solar energy.

Its mandates include:

(1) Generating atleast 1000 GW of solar energy by 2022

(2) Providing a fund with voluntary contributions to help increase adoption of Solar energy

(3) Providing technical assistance and training → example: 'Solar Mamas' are trained by India in its Barefoot College → Solar pioneers for African countries

(4) Reduce dependency on fossil fuels and help fulfil

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Paris agreement commitment of keeping temperature rise below 1.5 °C by 2050

The significance of ISA in positioning India to a key global leadership role includes:

(1) First international organiz^n with headquarters in India

(2) Monetary contribution by India shows its commitment to climate change fight

(3) Propels India to a leadership position in climate change initiative, when West, USA are relegating on commitments

(4) Will help fulfill INDCs.

(5) Soft power in Africa by training and livelihood support

(6) Strengthens our demand for "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities"

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11. India's engagement with its extended neighbourhood in West Asia has evolved into a 'Look West' approach in recent times. However, multiple faultlines in this volatile region require a balancing act on the part of India. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

पश्चिम एशिया में अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस के साथ भारत की सहभागिता हाल के दिनों में 'लुक वेस्ट' दृष्टिकोण के रूप में विकसित हुई है। हालांकि, इस अस्थिर क्षेत्र में उपस्थित कई फॉल्टलाइन्स भारत की ओर से एक संतुलनकारी कार्यवाही की मांग करते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

With over 11 million Indian diaspora, West Asia is home to the largest group of overseas Indians.

Ancient cultural and trad ties with the region are being rejuvinated with 'Look West' approach. However, multiple faultlines in the region need a balanced approach due to:

(1) Arab v/s Israel conflict → the Arab countries are importan for our energy security and remittances. UAE, Saudi Arabia have committed funds to NIIF. While Israel is fast becoming an important defence partner and collaboration in water management, R&D, innovation

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India's 14% population is Muslim and has strong emotional feelings for the sufferings of the Palestinians.

India's commitment to non-violence and self-determination for Palestinians is essential.

Recent times have seen a de-hyphenation of the relation with these nations and is the right way forward.

(2) Shia v/s Sunni conflict →

Iran is essential for our energy security and access to Afghanistan and Central Asia through Chabahar.

India is home to second largest Shia community.

Hence a balance is needed in relation with Iran and the Saudi-led Sunnix nations.

(3) Qatar boycott →

Qatar has been facing a

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diplomatic and trade boycott from Saudi, Bahrain and other neighbours.

(4) Syrian crisis → India though not a party in the negotiations and action, needs to uphold the human rights value commitment on the international platforms in this matter.

(5) Yemen crisis → 'Operation Raahat' was carried on to airlift Indian workers.

The West Asian countries have conflicts among themselves on multiple axes.

Nonetheless, they remain important for India's economic and cultural partnership.

A non-aligned approach is the best way forward to avoid antagonising any party, and at the same time stay committed to core values.

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12. While India and Russia have enjoyed good relations since the Soviet era, relying on the past may not be enough to deal with shift in the relationship in light of the rapidly evolving geopolitical realities. Comment.

(250 words) 15

यद्यपि सोवियत युग से ही भारत और रूस के संबंध मधुर रहे हैं, तथापि अतीत पर निर्भरता तेज़ी से विकसित होती भू-राजनीतिक वास्तविकताओं के प्रकाश में, संबंधों में आये बदलाव से निपटने हेतु पर्याप्त नहीं भी हो सकती हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

With the adoption of a planned economy and welfare economics, USSR was the natural ally India sought though remaining non-aligned

~~However,~~ From defence, space, and trade cooperation, the relationship has only strengthened over the years.

However, the past is not a predictor of the future and the following evolving realities denote the shift:

(1) The new Cold War →
while post-USSR disintegration saw a unipolar world with USA being the only super-power, the rising protectionism and abdication by USA of its

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leadership role in areas like free trade, climate change, NATO is making way for the rise of another powers.

China and Russia are the ascending powers and the trade embargoes are seen by many as a sign of a new Cold War.

(2) Russia - USA standoff →
Allegations of election meddling and snooping, CAATSA against Russia's partners, sacking of diplomats → all this points to a new low in USA Russia relationship.

(3) Russia - China closeness →
$800 million gas pipeline, trade cooperation and Russia's search for newer market for its oil after Western sanctions has drawn it close to China.

China has also supported

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Russia with its veto on Syria issue in UNSC.

(4) Russia's agressiveness in Crimea and pro-Assad stance in Syria.

India still sees Russia as a major defence partner, but efforts are being made to increase purchase from Israel and USA.

Russia is also a partner in BRICS, SCO, INSTC.

However, at the same time, Russia is wary of India's closeness to USA and India of Russia-China ties.

Way forward:

To increase trade partnership which is miniscule in non-defence sector.

And at the same time India should retain its sovereign foreign policy approach and remain non-aligned

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13. India-China ties, marked by a broad convergence on transnational issues, on one hand and geostrategic rivalry on the other, have profound implications not only for the two countries but also the current international system. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

भारत-चीन संबंध, जो एक ओर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्दों पर व्यापक अभिसरण और दूसरी तरफ भू-रणनीतिक प्रतिद्वंद्विता द्वारा चिन्हित होते हैं, इनका न केवल इन दोनों देशों के लिए बल्कि वर्तमान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रणाली के लिए भी गंभीर निहितार्थ हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Though not neighbours in the past, historic events have brought India and China closer, both literally and figuratively.

The convergence in the two countries is seen in:

(1) WTO negotiations
(2) Reforms of IMF, World Bank
(3) climate change negotiations
(4) BRICS initiatives like NDB, BRICS university, BRICS credit rating agency.

However, the geostrategic rivalry is demonstrated by:

(1) China's claim over Aksai Chin, Arunachal Pradesh.
(2) Skirmishes over the LAC and Macmohan line

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(3) India's opposition to BRI due to issue of CPEC
(4) 'String of Pearls' approach of China as viewed by Indian defence experts.
(5) Rising trade deficit → over $50 bn in China's favour.
(6) China's veto over India's membership of NSG
(7) China's refusal to name Hafiz Saeed as international terrorist.
(8) China's overt and covert support to Pakistan.

These similarities and differences have an implication not just on the two countries but the international system as a whole as seen by:
(1) WTO → Doha round is yet to be completed
(2) RCEP negotiations are stalled, mainly due to India's

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concern over further trade influx from China.

(3) Formation of "Quad"

(4) Malabar exercise has been made trilateral to include Japan

(5) BRI which is expected to rejuvinate the world trade will remain incomplete without India's participation

(6) India's activities in Agalega island in Mauritius, Assumption island in Seychelles, Chabahar and China's bases in Gwadar, Djibouti, Sittwe, Hambantota → may lead to militarization of Indian Ocean.

With the two largest populations and among the top 5 economies, it is but natural that Indo-China relation will affect the world. There needs to be a restraint from both sides and a firm commitment to 'Panchsheel' principles

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14. For BRICS to remain relevant, its members must make a realistic assessment of the initiative's opportunities and inherent limitations. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

BRICS की प्रासंगिकता बनाये रखने के लिए, इसके सदस्यों को इसे उपलब्ध अवसरों और अंतर्निहित सीमाओं का वास्तविक मूल्यांकन करना चाहिए। चर्चा कीजिए।

With 40% of world population and 23% of world GDP, BRICS is an important bloc. However, the slow progress on its various initiatives demands a relook at the group.

The opportunities available to BRICS include:

(1) Demand for free trade and following of WTO principles in face of rising protectionism in the West

(2) Cooperation in human resource development, poverty alleviation, achieving SDGs, battle climate change.

(3) Cooperation in ~~Ar~~ reform of western dominated institutions like IMF, World Bank and economic development

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However, certain limitations of the group include:

(1) China and Russia are permanent members of UNSC → less committed to UN reforms

(2) China and Russia are not democracies per se

(3) The BRICS are spread over 4 continents and have less cultural ties and people to people contact

(4) Differences in size of the economies and the growth rates

(5) Different internal challenges

(6) Rise of China and Russia which may make BRICS look like an anti-US establishment.

(7) Political instability in Brazil

Hence, the need is to identify the areas of convergence and non-conflict and work on the same.

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some steps taken include:

(1) NDB to help develop infrastructure and manpower

(2) BRICS knowledge network and BRICS university are being proposed

(3) They form a team during WTO, Paris climate change negotiations, IMF reforms.

However, issues that may not fructify are:

(1) BRICS trade union due to China's trade dominance

(2) BRICS military exercise → due to reluctance of India, Brazil, South Africa

(3) Free movement of capital and manpower.

Identifying the limitation and relying on a consensus based model is the way forward for BRICS to achieve their objectives

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15. Sluggish progress of the Doha round signals that the WTO is proving to be ineffective in promoting free trade. Identifying the factors behind this, comment on the relevance of WTO in present context. (250 words) 15

दोहा दौर की धीमी प्रगति संकेत करती है कि WTO, मुक्त व्यापार को प्रोत्साहित करने में अप्रभावी सिद्ध हो रहा है। इसके पीछे उत्तरदायी कारकों की पहचान करते हुए, वर्तमान संदर्भ में WTO की प्रासंगिकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Doha Development Round of WTO commenced in 2001 and is yet to be completed.

This denotes the ineffectiveness of WTO in promoting free trade and the factors causing this are:

(1) WTO is a consensus based organisation → consensus among 150+ countries is difficult to achieve

(2) USA's refusal to approve appointment of judges to the WTO dispute redressal body → lack of manpower, over-burdened body

(3) Over bureaucratization

(4) Refusal of developed countries to conclude negotiations on the

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'peace clause' for India which is important for its agriculture and food security.

(5) Refusal to restructure the 3 types of subsidies and use current year figures instead of 1986 base year.

(6) Attempt by developed countries to introduce new topics like e-commerce, MSME, gender and trade, which developing countries view as a form of non-tariff barrier

(7) No clear definitions and solutions to issues of sanitary and phyto sanitary barriers.

However, the WTO still remains relevant as:

(1) Preference treatment to LDCs is helping them attract investment and develop a manufacturing base.

(2) Measures like anti-dumping

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duty are helping countries protect their local industries

(3) Proposed FTA is expected to increase world GDP by 1% and generate almost 200 million jobs worldwide

(4) MFN treatment has helped smaller nations

Way forward:

(1) Reduce over-bureaucratisation and evolve a new decision making mechanism

(2) Multilateral treaties like TPP, RCEP, NAFTA may help fill the vacuum caused due to WTO impasse.

(3) Using informal sessions and ministerial negotiations to help all countries put forward their concerns and evolve the talks.

Globalization is an irreversible process and WTO will help sustain it to some extent

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16. The India-France Strategic Partnership launched in 1998 seems to have finally come of age. Comment. **(250 words) 15**

1998 में आरंभ भारत-फ्रांस रणनीतिक साझेदारी, अंततः परिपक्व होती प्रतीत हो रही है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India-France strategic partnership was launched in 1998 and since then the cooperation in Defence, Space, trade and diplomacy has only strengthened.

The France was among the few nations that supported India after the 1974 nuclear test. It also was amongst the first to sign a civil nuclear agreement.

The relationship can be seen as below:

(1) Space Sector → larger satellites are launched by France from Kourou

(2) Defence → Rafale, Agusta are French companies and we have sourced important equipment from them

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(3) Nuclear power → the proposed plant in Jaitapur is in French partnership

(4) Diplomacy → France being a permanent member of UNSC, supports India's claim to permanent seat with veto power. It also supports India's NSG entry.

(5) Solar Alliance → jointly launched by India and France on the sidelines of Paris COP, ISA is the first international organisation headquartered in India.

It seeks to achieve atleast 1000 GW solar power consumption in coming years and aims to help with funding and technology support to achieve the same.

(6) Indian Ocean → France territory 'Reunion Island'

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is in Indian Ocean and India has refueling rights at the base.

France has also shown interest in joining "Quad".

France also sees India as a 'net security provider' in the Indian Ocean Region.

(7) Bilateral Exercises →

'Garuda' between airforces

'Varuna' between navies

and we also have one between the armies.

Way forward:

Bilateral trade is still under-utilized.

Linguistic barriers can be overcome to encourage people to people contacts.

BTIA if concluded, can further enhance the bilateral relation.

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17. Despite the great strides made, India-ASEAN relations have not measured up to expectations. Critically examine in the context of recent commemoration of relations by the two sides through the Delhi Declaration. (250 words) 15

उत्कृष्ट प्रगति के बावजूद, भारत-ASEAN संबंध अपेक्षाओं पर खरे नहीं उतरे हैं। दिल्ली घोषणापत्र के माध्यम से दोनों पक्षों द्वारा हाल ही में मनाये गए संबंधों के स्मरणोत्सव के संदर्भ में आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

India being the largest country in South Asia, and ASEAN being the bloc of South-East Asian countries, it was but natural for the two to come close.

India-ASEAN relations have completed 50 years and Delhi Declaration commemorated the same.

The ties over the years have seen success stories like:

(1) Cooperation on international platforms.

(2) Cooperation in fighting insurgency, terrorism, drug trafficking, security of Indian Ocean Region.

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(3) People to people contact.
(4) Presence of large Indian diaspora in countries like Singapore
(5) cultural ties from Ancient era with Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam.
(6) India-ASEAN FTA, due to which trade has increased
(7) Large FDIs from Singapore

However, there remain several unresolved issues like:

(1) RCEP negotiations are seen to be stalled mainly due to India's objections
(2) FTA has been seen to be more beneficial to ASEAN and trade deficit of India has increased → automobile, textile sectors affected due to imports from ASEAN
(3) Pro-China tilt of certain

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countries like Cambodia and hostility towards china by countries like Vietnam.

(4) Slow progress on connectiv projects → Kaladan multimodal project, IMT trilateral highway

(5) Political instability in Myanma which is India's gateway to ASEAN.

(6) Scope to increase India's exports remains underutilized due to resistance to open the service sectors, people movemen

ASEAN is core to the 'Act East' policy. Initiatives like 'Buddha circuit', Nalanda University, 'Hat' Ramayana circuit' are efforts to hark back to the cultural ties.

India-ASEAN share a history and India enjoys soft power with the region which can be leveraged to strengthen the ties

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18. India's expanding interests rather than endorsement by others should be the basis of its engagement with what is being termed as the Indo-Pacific. Analyse. (250 words) 15

हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में भारत की संलग्नता अन्य देशों को समर्थन के स्थान पर भारत के विस्तृत होते हितों पर आधारित होनी चाहिए। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

With 90% of India's oil imports and sea trade coming through Indian Ocean, the region is of strategic interest to India.

The usage of term "Indo Pacific" in America's National Security Strategy is one of the examples of rising importance of the region.

However, India's engagement in the region should be on its own terms and to cater to own interests like:

(1) Energy Security → oil trade

(2) Trade Security

(3) Choke points like Strait of Hormuz and Bab-Al-Mandeb need to be free and secure.

(4) National Security → China is

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believed to be building a 'String of Pearls' and India has been building naval bases and infrastructure to counter the same with a 'Garland of flowers'.

(5) Piracy → which threatens Indian vessels too

(6) Need for free, open SLOCs, navigation and overflight

(7) Need to protect against drug traffiking, arms and human traffiking which are using sea routes

(8) Refugee Crisis → Rohingyas are using the ocean routes. Refugees from Syria, Yemen are also using the waterways

(9) China's BRI → seen as a form of neo-colonialism where countries like Sri Lanka, Maldives have handed strategic land to China.

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All these make it essentia for India to act as a "Net Security Provider" of the region.

However India should be wary of:

(1) Getting entangled in USA's 'Pivot to Asia' to counter China

(2) Militarizing the "Quad" which can be seen as an anti-China alliance.

(3) Delaying projects → like Asia Africa Growth Corridor, Chabahar, INSTC as it will give an upper hand to China

(4) Involvement in South China Sea issue as it is not our EEZ.

Thus, a free, open and secure 'Indo-Pacific' remains critical to SAGAR → security and growth for all.

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19. In what ways has the engagement between India and its diaspora evolved over the years? What role can the Indian diaspora play in furthering and shaping India's foreign policy goals? **(250 words) 15**

भारत और इसके डायस्पोरा के बीच सहभागिता बीते वर्षों के दौरान किस तरह विकसित हुई हैं? भारत की विदेशी नीति के लक्ष्यों को आगे बढ़ाने और आकार देने में भारतीय डायस्पोरा क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

Indian diaspora stands at over 25 million, the second largest in the world.

The engagement between India and its diaspora has evolved over the years as:

(1) Pre-1947 → the indentured labourers in Carribean, Africa and South East Asia were encouraged to integrate with ~~home~~ resident countries and eventually lost ties with India

the immigrants in North America did make efforts to contribute to the freedom struggle, but their numbers were lesser than the former ones

(2) 1947 to 1970 → Commonwealth rules helped migration to UK. USA, Canada were other locations

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and this wave consisted of both blue collar workers and entrepreneurs who soon grew prosperous in their resident countries, and citizens

(3) 1970 to 1990 → while the West wave continued and also included qualified professionals, oil rush in gulf led to huge migration These migrants contributed the most to remittances and maintained closest ties with India, mainly due to non-issual of permanent citizensh

(4) post 1991 → with LPG, the MNCs increased in India and so did short term migration for work as well as education, mainly to USA, Canada and EU.

Australia, NZ emerged as new destinations.

Increasing hostility, racism

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and rising protectionism has made this wave the most culture conscious and assertive.

The role they can play in furthering and shaping India's foreign policy goals are:

(1) Economic → remittances, FDI, investment in bonds and equity market to strengthen Indian economy

(2) Soft power → spread of culture, bollywood, Yoga, Ayush

(3) Reputational approach → by showing prowess in IT skills, STEM, law abiding nature

(4) Political → formation of Indian caucus in USA, increased elected representatives of Indian origin in USA, Canada, UK. Even ministerial berths. They can act as a pressure group to further India's interests.

Pravasi Bhartiya Divas and other MEA initiatives will help increase the connection with the diaspora.

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20. India-Bangladesh relations have been termed one of fraternal friendship. What have been the key achievements in this context in the last few years? Also, identify steps to further consolidate these relations. **(250 words) 15**

भारत-बांग्लादेश संबंधों को भ्रातृत्व पूर्ण मित्रता में से एक कहा जाता है। बीते कुछ वर्षों में इस संदर्भ में प्रमुख उपलब्धियां क्या रही हैं? साथ ही, इन संबंधों को आगे और सुदृढ़ बनाने हेतु कुछ उपायों की पहचान कीजिए।

India shares a 4000 km land border with Bangladesh, its longest with any neighbour.

The shared relation includes cultural, economic and people to people ties.

The key achievements in last few years include:

(1) Land Boundary Agreement → 100th Constitutional amendment which allowed exchange of enclaves

(2) Akhoura-Agartala railway line which will help reduce the travel time from Kolkata to Agartala for goods by almost 10 days → trade in NE ↑

(3) Narrowing down of key areas of BIMSTEC, finalising a permanent secretariat in

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Dhaka. Joint military exercise between BIMSTEC

(4) BBIN free travel for vehicles.

(5) Ganga water sharing agreement

(6) Efforts made by Bangladesh to halt illegal immigration

(7) India's assistance to Bangladesh to help Rohingyas.

However, certain issues remain:

(1) BSF claims illegal immigration still continues

(2) NRC in Assam → lack of any exchange agreement with Bangladesh which marks a question on status of those not included in NRC

(3) Teesta water agreement could not be concluded

(4) Bangladesh objection to proposed Tipaimukh project over river Barak.

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(5) China is developing the port of Chittagong which India fears may be militarized. as part of 'String of Pearls'

(6) Presence of HUJI radical groups with anti-India rhetorics. BNP the main opposition party supports them.

Way forward to consolidate the relations:

(1) Completion of hydropower and other infrastructure projects as committed by India in a timely manner

(2) Leverage BIMSTEC to cooperate on trade, HRD, economic development maritime security, counter terrorism.

(3) Strengthen border security to stop migrants, drug, arms and human traffiking, FCIN inflow

India and Bangladesh can build on the historic goodwill to cooperate for security and growth

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1065)

Name of Candidate	Neha		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	135596
Center	–	Date	–

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Despite many challenges, India has persisted in consolidating relations with Iran. Explain. In the context of Chabahar Port, discuss the significance of other actors in Indo-Iranian relations.

कई चुनौतियों के बावजूद भारत ने ईरान के साथ संबंधों को सुदृढ़ बनाये रखा है। व्याख्या कीजिए। चाबहार पत्तन के संदर्भ में, भारत-ईरान संबंधों में अन्य कर्ताओं के महत्व की चर्चा कीजिए।

India-Iran ties share a long cultural and economic history and people to people contact

The ties have sustained inspite of:

(1) Iranian revolution

(2) Ayattolah Khoemeni's support to free Kashmir

(3) Sanctions on Iran due to nuclear activity

(4) Instability in West Asia.

The ties are important for:

(1) Energy security → Iran is third largest supplier of crude oil to India.

(2) Connect to Central Asia → due to unavailability of land route

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through Pakistan and Afghanistan

(3) Afghanistan Stability → Iran is an important stakeholder and also the gateway to Afghanistan for India.

(4) Economic ties → Indian Oil refineries are calibrated to Iranian crude. Iran provides favourable trade terms and also accepted payment in rupee-rial mechanism and in exchange of rice.

Chabahar is India's ambitious project in the South East Iran. Its features:

(1) Route till Zahedan being made and then can be used for trade to Afghanistan via Zaranj-Delaram Highway

(2) Only 80 km from Gwadar

(3) Near the crucial chokepoints of strait of Hormuz.

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The significance of other actors in the Chabahar are:

(1) P5+1 → signed the JCPOA with Iran which enabled trade and investments to be resumed normally.

(2) USA → withdrew from the agreement - But India received CAATSAA waiver for Chabahar. However pressuring India to reduce crude import.

(3) China → assumed to build a "string of Pearls" around India. Chabahar is India's answer to Gwadar.

(4) Afghanistan → Wheat shipment already delivered. More trade

(5) Central Asia → After INSTC materialises, Chabahar can help increase trade with this.

(6) Pakistan → views Indo-Iran ties with suspicion.

Thus, diplomacy is a nuanced game with multiple stakeholders as seen in Indo-Iran ties.

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2. It has been argued that recent developments in Maldives marked a test for the Neighbourhood First policy of India. In this context, do you think India's neighbourhood policy requires a major overhaul to deal with such developments?

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि मालदीव के हालिया घटनाक्रम ने भारत की "पड़ोस पहले" की नीति को कसौटी पर कसा है। इस संदर्भ में, क्या आप मानते हैं कि इस प्रकार के घटनाक्रमों से निपटने के लिए भारत की पड़ोस नीति का आमूलचूल निरीक्षण करके उसे दुरुस्त करने की आवश्यकता है?

The proclamation of Emergency and sacking of judges, speaker by the ruling dispensation of Maldives has a turmoil in the archipelago

The opposition party has sought India's assistance, however India has rightly stayed away from the matter.

This stance is justified as:

(1) It is the opposition and not the democratically elected ruling party that seeks help

(2) It could have been perceived as supporting a coup and undermining Maldives's sovereignty.

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However, with China's support to the ruling party and large infrastructure projects to China, critics have called for greater role of India.

Thus, the happenings tested the "Neighbourhood First" policy of India.

The policy is dictated by 'Gujral Doctrine' which is:

(1) No reciprocity expectations from small neighbours.

(2) Respect for sovereignty.

(3) No interference in internal politics.

India aims to be "Net Security Provider" in the region and Maldives is an important component for the same.

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The neighbourhood policy may be overhauled in view of recent developments by:

(1) Ensuring safety of India's strategic and economic interests in any neighbour.

Example: Maldives has asked India to remove its helicopters and refused to extend work visas to Indians.

(2) Play a leadership role in building opinion for strengthening democracy and democratic institutes.

Example: India can use platforms like UN to pressurise Maldives to show commitment to democracy.

While China's way of direct interference is to be avoided, India can use its soft power to ensure stability and democracy in Maldives

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3. The developments since the beginning of 21st century have augured well for India-Japan relations, nonetheless terming them natural allies would require further consolidation of the ties. Critically comment.

21वीं शताब्दी के आरंभ के बाद से घटित घटनाक्रम भारत-जापान संबंधों की बेहतरी का पूर्वाभास कराते हैं, फिर भी इन्हें प्राकृतिक सहयोगी कहने के लिए संबंधों को आगे और सुदृढ़ बनाने की आवश्यकता होगी। आलोचनात्मक टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Post-liberalization, India has found various development partners and Japan has been one of strongest relationship in areas like technology, infrastructure.

Following developments have demonstrated the progress the ties have made:

(1) India is the first non-NSG member with whom Japan has signed a nuclear agreement

(2) Japan has joined as 3RD partner in Indo-US Malabar exercise

(3) Part of "Quad" strategic and political alliance

(4) Asia Africa Growth corridor which is seen by many as an answer to China's BRI

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(5) Natural synergy between India's 'Act East' and Japan's 'Think West' policy

(6) Japan has partnered in infrastructure projects like Bullet train, Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor', 12 upcoming industrial townships.

(7) Japan's PFI - Partnership for Infrastructure policy has helped develop projects in North-East India.

However, further consolidation of ties is needed to term Indo-Japan "natural allies" due to:

(1) Low bilateral trade. The aim is to raise it to $15 bn a year. Japan-China bilateral trade is over $300 bn.

(2) Reluctance of Japan to extend long term visas to

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Indian professionals.

(3) Low tourist footfall betwee the two countries

(4) Japan has a greater interest in South-China Sea and may drag India into the politics of the region

(5) Japan's desire to militarize the "Quad".

(6) South Korea is fast replacing Japan as the source of high tech items and technologies for India.

A greater economic and people-to-people contact, along with clarity on defence ties can be the way forward.

India's demographic dividend and Japan's tech leadership can make them truly complementary partners

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4. In view of India's quest to become a leading power globally, assess its potential to achieve desired outcomes and preparedness to address key emerging issues in international arena.

विश्व स्तर पर एक अग्रणी शक्ति बनने की भारत की अभिलाषा के आलोक में, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्षेत्र में उभर रहे प्रमुख मुद्दों को हल करने के प्रति वांछित परिणामों को प्राप्त करने की इसकी क्षमता और तैयारियों का आकलन कीजिए।

India, with its rising economic might, is looking to become an important player in international politics

The potential of India is demonstrated by its:

(1) High GDP growth %.

(2) Poised to become 5th largest GDP and 3rd in GDP (PPP).

(3) Demographic dividend

(4) Skills in STEM, English

(5) Strong democratic institution

(6) Military might and peace commitment, non-violence

(7) Responsible nuclear power, no first use policy.

(8) Proactive role being played in international platforms like WTO, IMF, UN Organisati

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(9) Commitment to climate justice, renewable energy.

The world today is no-more unipolar and with USA becoming increasingly inward-looking, the ground is open for new powers.

The challenges and emergin issues in the international arena and India's strengths in the same include:

(1) Rising inequality → India's commitment to socialism and welfare economics

(2) Terrorism, radicalisation → 2nd largest Muslim population yet least number of ISIS recruits. 2nd largest manpower in military forces.

Has coordinated with multiple agencies in surveill monitoring, intelligence

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gathering.

(3) Refugee crisis → though not directly arriving in India, the country has stood by the rights of asylum seekers and has also helped Bangladesh in Rohingya issue

(4) Climate change → ISA, promised INDCs, thrust on renewable energy source

(5) Ageing population and workforce → can be supported by India's demographic dividend

(6) protectionism → India has always upheld international treaties, showing reliability.

However, internal issues like poverty, unemployment, poor gender indicators are yet to be resolved and need focus in order to propel India into a global power

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5. Critically analyse the role of non-state actors in international relations and their impact on India's diplomatic ties and strategic interests.

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंधों में राज्येत्तर कर्ताओं की भूमिका और भारत के राजनयिक संबंधों एवं सामरिक हितों पर उनके प्रभाव का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Non-state actors are outside the definition of the "state" and include terrorist organizations, radical groups, organized crime syndicates.

Their role in IR includes.

1) Acting as a B-team of the state and act as its proxy in certain areas → HM, JeM are believed to be backed by Pakistan's ISI and train and recruit youth, fan unrest in the Kashmir valley

(2) Gather funds for terrorist activities → Haqqani network is believed to be the front for financing HM, JeM.

(3) Due to their "unofficial" status, the state can escape

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responsibility of their actions and not attract international sanctions and reprimands.

(4) Non-state actors are believed to be involved in FICN smuggling, drugs trafficking, money laundering, arms supply

Their impact on India's diplomatic ties and strategic interests can be elaborated as:

(1) Critical negotiation point → in discussions with Pakistan. India insists that Pak stop supporting all direct and indirect forms of aggression against India before talks can proceed

(2) China factor → China has vetoed to declare Hafiz Saeed as an international

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terrorist much to India's disappointment.

(3) International bodies → UNSC resolution to declare Al Qaeda as terrorist organisation reaffir India's expose of Pak-backed terrorism. FATF sanctions.

(4) Western countries → USA has frozen accounts and assets of Pak-based groups.

Non state actors help the enemy ~~laun~~ avoid the costs of a full-fledged war yet affect India's interests, thus imposing economic, technological and defence forces related costs on India

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6. Examine the key aspects of India-United Kingdom ties. In this context, how significant is the Commonwealth grouping? Discuss in view of the recent developments.

भारत-यूनाइटेड किंगडम संबंधों के प्रमुख पहलुओं का परीक्षण कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, राष्ट्रमंडल समूह कितना महत्वपूर्ण है? हाल के घटनाक्रमों के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

India-UK ties which began with colonialism have well sustained in the face of 21st century democracy.

The key aspects include:

(1) Huge influx of migrants from India in 1950s-60s under the Commonwealth work permits and their subsequent naturalization and citizenship.

(2) People to people contacts → tourism, cricket, Indian students, professionals in UK

(3) India's judicial, political systems are influenced from the British system

(4) Preferred destination for legal studies due to similar

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legal systems

(5) Strategic business partnersh

→ Tata's acquisition of Jaguar Natsteel and Tata Steel Arcelor Mittal deal.

Commonwealth is the organization of all the nations once a part of the British crown. Its Significance

(1) Organization with the 2nd largest number of countries after UN Bodies

(2) Commonwealth games as a symbol of unity and partnership among nations

(3) Includes developed countrie like Canada, developing countries like India and several LDCs and SIDCs.

In the view of Brexit, UK has been looking at

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partnerships and groupings and its attempt to revive Commonwealth is seen as an attempt for the same.

It can help India by:

(1) Platform to engage with LDCs and SIDCs → to strengthen its position for south-south cooperation

(2) Small Island Developing Countries → most are vulnerab to climate change and can partner with them for same

(3) Commonwealth work viso and free trade regime may be negotiated in the future.

History binds India-UK and economics and diplomac will continue to strengthen these ties.

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7. UN Peacekeeping requires reforms to ensure its increased effectiveness and appropriate use in future. Analyse.

भविष्य में संयुक्त राष्ट्र शांतिरक्षण (यू. एन. पीसकीपिंग) की बढ़ी हुई प्रभावशीलता और उचित उपयोग सुनिश्चित करने के लिए इसमें सुधार की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

UN Peacekeeping is at forefront in several conflict ridden areas, alleviating human sufferings and upholding human rights.

UN Peacekeeping ~~to~~ forces have won the Nobel Prize for Peace and played valuable role in rebuilding nations like Congo, Haiti.

However certain challenges remain and reforms may be initiated to increase the effectiveness:

(1) Forces can be deployed only on the request of the country's government → hence they have not been able to play any role in the

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Syrian Crisis -

(2) Funding is through donation by member countries and private organizations → received funds are declining and issues of non-payment remains. Example: India is yet to receive payments for its forces.

(3) Does not have permanent forces, but consist of volunteers from member nations

(4) Allegations of corruption, human rights violation, support to despotic regimes

(5) Not enough safety gear, intelligence assistance and monitoring → have led to many soldiers being killed in line of duty.

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The way forward to initiate reforms is:

(1) Proactive deployment in case of severe humanitarian crisis like Syria.

(2) Independent budget from UN to get funds on time

(3) Transparency in funding, ground activities, audit mechanism, greivance redressal mechanism.

(4) Unified Training to improve interoperatability among soldiers from various ~~so~~ countries

(5) Mandate to improve surveillance, intelligence gathering to reduce vulnerability to attack.

With increased economic, manpower and technical support, the organization can further improve its working

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8. Discuss the progress and hurdles in achieving the objectives of India's Connect Central Asia policy. Also suggest measures to overcome these hurdles.

भारत की कनेक्ट सेंट्रल एशिया नीति के उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में हुई प्रगति और बाधाओं की चर्चा कीजिए। इन बाधाओं को दूर करने के उपाय भी सुझाइए।

India - Central Asia share historic trade ties. However the relationship in modern times is yet evolving.

Central Asia consists of 5 countries → Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.

The progress made in the Connect Central Asia policy:

(1) Chabahar port → can help connect to CA through Iran and Afghanistan.

(2) Ashgabat Agreement → for cooperation on trade and connectivity

(3) INSTC → when completed can help easier access to CA

(4) India is an observer in Eurasian Economic Union

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(5) SCO → India is now a permanent member

(6) Nuclear civil agreement with Kazakstan to supply uranium.

(7) Proposed TAPI pipeline → for supply of gas from Turkmenistan.

(8) Air corridor to Afghanistan

However, certain hurdles exist in the ties due to:

(1) Geography → India lacks direct access to any of the countries

(2) Trade → bilateral trade is only $2 Bn, as opposed to $50 Bn between China and Central Asia

(3) Slow progress on INSTC, TAPI.

(4) Poor people to people contact

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However, the bilateral and multilateral agreements and organizations are poised to help in overcoming the hurdles.

India is also seeking to leverage its soft power by:

(1) Scholarships to students in CA under ITEC scheme
→ help in skill training

(2) Cultural Research Institute scholarships.

(3) Proposals for extending Tele-medicine, Tele-education services to CA similar to Africa.

Central Asia is a recently developing area and provides rich scope for goods and services trade and enhance cooperation in the region.

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9. Urban terrorism has been on the rise in recent times. Identify the factors that make urban centres susceptible to terrorist attacks. What lessons can be learnt from the past attacks to put in place effective measures to combat it?

हाल के समय में शहरी आतंकवाद उफान पर रहा है। शहरी केंद्रों को आतंकवादी हमलों के लिए सुग्राह्य बनाने वाले कारकों की पहचान कीजिए। इसका मुकाबला करने हेतु प्रभावी उपाय करने के लिए पिछले हमलों से क्या सबक सीखे जा सकते हैं?

From Mumbai to London, Paris, Brussels – Urban terrorism has raised its ugly head all over the world.

The factors that make urban centres susceptible to terrorist attacks include:

(1) Relative anonymity

(2) Easy availability of means and sources.

(3) Ability to create a larger impact due to high population density.

(4) Economic inequality, squalor, urban crawl → leading to alienation and relative deprivation → making

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youths vulnerable to radicalization.

(5) Policing difficulty due to huge population.

(6) Epicentre of economic activities → an attack acts as a psychological horror and generates widespread fear

(7) Large influx of migrants which can also be taken advantage by notorious elements.

Each such incidence needs to be critically analysed to pick out lessons. Some of them include:

(1) Need for greater integration of the marginalized and ethnic minorities → attackers have been 2nd generation immigrants and yet poorly integrated.

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(2) Community intelligence → neighbours, local imams have reported suspicious youths. However, proper surveillance and monitoring was not put in place.

(3) Innovation → using vehicles as a weapon. Proper documentation may be demanded before sale or rental of vehicles like Truck, trailer

(4) Online radicalization, lone wolf attacks → need to crackdown on websites and networks that propagate ISIS material.

For every attack that happens, aim should be to prevent a repeat and hence necessary community, security and technical measures should be put in place

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10. Despite consistent efforts to contain it, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed waves of violence since the inception of insurgency in the late 1980s. What, in your opinion, are the causes of persistent violence in the state? Also, suggest measures to improve the situation in the state.

नियंत्रित करने के निरंतर प्रयासों के बावजूद, 1980 के दशक के उत्तरार्ध में उपद्रव (इंसेर्जेंसी) आरंभ होने के बाद से ही जम्मू-कश्मीर हिंसा की लहरों का साक्षी रहा है। आपकी राय में, राज्य में लगातार हिंसा के क्या कारण हैं? साथ ही, राज्य में स्थिति में सुधार के लिए उपाय भी सुझाइए।

A combination of local and international factors have led to constant waves of insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir from the late 1980s.

The beginning was due to:

(1) Perceived rigging of 1987 elections in favour of NC

(2) End of Soviet Afghan war which freed the Mujahiddeen and enabled them to focus on a new area - J&K

(3) Pakistan's overt and covert support to the insurgents

However, the issue has festered for so long and continued due to:

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(1) Pakistan's increased ability to provide funds and training
(2) Perceived lack of democracy in J&K due to continued rule by only 2 families
(3) Failure to conduct periodic elections to tier 3 bodies
(4) Frequent imposition of Governor's rule → viewed as an attempt to control J&K from New Delhi
(5) Huge unemployment → due to lack of private sector and perceived nepotism and corruption in public sector recruitment
(6) Rhetorics for abolition of Article 35A → which is viewed by Kashmiris as their right and base of their relationship with Delhi.
(7) Failure to resettle the

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Pandits in the valley → thus resulting in loss of secular fabric of Kashmir

(8) Allegations of misuse of power by army.

Since the death of Burhan Wani, an entire new generation of youth who have grown in the shadow of insurgency has taken to arms. The way forward is:

(1) Economic development

(2) Greater integration through scholarships, job opportunities in other parts of India.

(3) Increased surveillance, monitoring → surgical strikes to destroy hideouts.

(4) Reinstate democratic govts

(5) Reassure about constitutional status of Article 35A.

The amalgamation of Kashmiriyat, Insaniyat and Jhamooriyat is the only solution

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11. While the National Investigation Agency is emerging as India's premier terror investigating agency, the challenges before it are multipronged. Discuss.

जहां राष्ट्रीय अन्वेषण अभिकरण भारत की प्रमुख आतंक अन्वेषण अभिकरण के रूप में उभर रही है, वहीं इसके समक्ष बहुआयामी चुनौतियां भी हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

National Investigation Agency is fast emerging as India's premier terror investigating agency.

The multipronged challenges before it include:

(1) Changing nature of terror

- cyber attacks
- lone wolf attacks
- urban terrorism
- insurgents and infiltration

(2) Recruitment and training to fight such attacks → majorly deputed from IPS. and may not be fully acquainted with the challenges

(3) Emerging areas like:

↳ Bio-terrorism

↳ Space-terrorism

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↳ environmental terrorism over which very limited understanding currently exists

(4) Rise of Data → need to develop capacity to use and process Big Data, analytics, artificial intelligence to enhance monitoring and surveillance.

Predictive analytics can help pre-empt attacks

(5) Psychological warfare → through spread of fake news, propaganda, use of sharp power can have serious consequences.

(6) Changing societal dynamics → rising alienation, anonymity, urbanization is making traditional social networks redundant. Hence difficult

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to learn of suspicious activity from such networks

(7) Rising inequality, unemployment → increases relative deprivation and vulnerability of radicalization

(8) Organized transnational rackets of money laundering, FICN, drugs, arms, human trafficking → fund terrorism

(9) Rising funds with international terror organizations like ISIS.

Way forward:

Multi-institutional and multi-dimensional support along with insights from sector specialists can help NIA in face of these challenges.

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12. Assess the potential of Social Media Networks for effective policing in India. Also, highlight the reasons behind relatively slow pace of adaptation of social media into policing in India.

भारत में प्रभावी पुलिस व्यवस्था के लिए सोशल मीडिया नेटवर्क की संभाव्यताओं का आकलन कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में पुलिस व्यवस्था में सोशल मीडिया के अनुकूलन की अपेक्षाकृत धीमी गति के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

With 2nd largest number of social media users, India is adopting these networks at a rapid pace.

Their potential for effective policing include:

(1) Identification of potential youth that may be radicalized
→ by tracking the posts they share, content they upload and comments and likes they make, take note of complaints

(2) Identify possibility of any law and order situation
→ depending on the posts, hashtags, comments of people from a single area.

(3) Check the spread of fake

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rules → example: WhatsApp videos that were spread claiming child lifters racket, which resulted in mob lynching of outsiders in that region.

(4) Timely information can be provided on any security or relief work.

(5) Using chatrooms to help de-radicalize youth and get them in contact with correct leaders.

(6) Identify potential cyber stalking, cyber bullying, cyber harrassment, sharing of child pornography, revenge porn, threats to women.

(7) Use as a quick response mechanism during emergencies example:- during floods in Mumbai, police quickly

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updated on shelters and food facilities, available routes.

(8) Identify possible honey-traps from India's enemies.
example → case of engineer working on Brahmos.

Mumbai, Bangalore, Delhi police have been proactive on social media networks.

However slow pace is due to:
1) Lack of technological expertise and skilled manpower
2) Inadequate infrastructure and budget support
(3) Inertia to change.

With CCTNS, e-courts, digitalization of law and order mechanism is on its way and social media policing can be another dimension of it.

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13. Integrated theatre commands are only one amongst the many steps required for improving the effectiveness of armed forces. Discuss.

एकीकृत थियेटर कमांड सशस्त्र बलों की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार लाने के लिए आवश्यक कई उपायों में से केवल एक उपाय है। चर्चा कीजिए।

With the operationalization of the Andaman and Nicobar command, India has launched its first integrated theatre command.

An integrated theatre command is a tri-service command under a unified leadership and control.

It is expected to provide speed, agility and improved pace of attack in any war-fare situation.

However, it is only one amongst the many steps required for improving the effectiveness of armed forces due to:

(1) Lack of adequate machinery

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and manpower to spare for such a command.
Example: Air Force only has 31 out of 42 squadrons required.

(2) No appointment of Chief of Defence Staff yet as a permanent figure to lead such integrated commands.

(3) No concrete steps to design fourth arm of defence forces → cyber command and fifth arm → space command

Other steps to improve efficiency of the armed forces include:

(1) Shekatkar committee report → improve teeth to tail ratio by reducing redundant posts like dairy farms, army post offices in civilian areas

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(2) Defence budget is about 3% of GDP, whereas China's is about 6%.

(3) Huge import dependency

(4) Poor participation of private sector in Make in India for defence sector

(5) CAG report → ammunition is sufficient only for 10 days of war as opposed to mandated 20 days.

(6) Overburdened CAPF which should act as second line of defence.

Way forward:

(1) Rationalization of manpower

(2) Indigenisation of equipment
→ Defence corridors

(3) More tritaterat service exercises to improve their interoperatability.

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14. Discussing the applications of the NISAR mission, comment on the need for international collaborations in India's space programme to generate resources and develop expertise.

NISAR मिशन के अनुप्रयोगों पर चर्चा करते हुए, संसाधन जुटाने और विशेषज्ञता विकसित करने के लिए भारत के अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग की आवश्यकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

NISAR or NASA-ISRO

Space Aperture Radar is a joint collaboration for high quality mapping of earth resources.

NISAR will help in:

(1) Provides picture of land-forms, minerals, water bodies, vegetation

(2) Can be used to track impact of climate change.

(3) Utilization of natural resources and exploration

(4) Accurate planning

(5) Enhanced understanding for scientific R&D.

(6) Map the forest cover to conform to CAMPA rules.

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While ISRO has proved its mettle by initiatives like GSLV Mk III, Cryogenic tech, Chandrayaan, Mangalyaan, international collaborations can further enhance India's Space program.

It can aid in:

(1) Assistance in cutting edge technology → example: Russia has helped in PSLV.

(2) Generate financial resources → India is fast becoming the go-to agency for launching small and medium satellites → generates foreign exchange.

(3) Training manpower → Russia has promised help in manned-mission Gaganyaan

(4) International issues → by negotiating and playing

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important role in areas like:

a) Peaceful use of outer space

b) No weaponization of outer space

c) United efforts to clean space debris.

(5) Contribute to understanding of cosmic phenomenon and science: Chandrayaan confirmed water on moon which was earlier observed by NASA.

Aditya, along with NASA's Parker will go at lagrange points and help understand solar flares.

Space is a common resource and hence a collaborative approch is the right way to study and develop understanding of space.

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15. Elaborate upon the role of remote sensing technology in the agriculture sector. Also, enumerate various programmes undertaken by the government to leverage remote sensing technology for monitoring agriculture in India.

कृषि क्षेत्रक में सुदूर संवेदन प्रौद्योगिकी की भूमिका का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में कृषि की निगरानी करने के लिए सुदूर संवेदन प्रौद्योगिकी का लाभ उठाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा आरंभ किए गए विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Remote sensing technology uses satellites, drones to get an accurate picture of various features on land.

Remote sensing technology is being used in agriculture sector for:

(1) Assessing damage to crops due to natural phenomenon like drought, hail, flood → payment of PMKBY uses this technology to decide insurance payouts to be made

(2) Used to assess drought situation → % of land sowed is one parameter used to declare the category of drought

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(3) To get more information about deep forested areas → can be used to identify timber smuggling, encroachment

(4) Used by policy-makers to estimate the crop production → used to make decisions and procedures for procurement, pricing, marketing

(5) To identify areas which may require irrigation

Government has already deployed remote sensing technology in agriculture like:

(1) BHUVAN → to make detailed land records. Can help resolve conflicting claims and corruption in land deals.

(2) CHAMAN → technology is

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used to assist horticulture production.

(3) Drones are being used to disperse seeds in barren land that is inaccessible → example: forests destroyed due to forest fire

(4) Damage assessment under Pradhan Mantri Krushi Bima Yojana.

Agriculture, with use of such technologies can definitely grow faster than the current rate of 3–4% and will enable achieving doubling of farm income by 2022.

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16. Defining superbugs, assess why India is particularly vulnerable to them. Also, suggest measures that can be taken to deal with the threat of superbugs in India.

सुपरबग को परिभाषित करते हुए, मूल्यांकन कीजिए कि भारत इनके प्रति विशेष रूप से सुभेद्य क्यों है। साथ ही, भारत में सुपरबग के खतरे से निपटने के लिए किए जा सकने वाले उपाय भी सुझाइए।

Superbugs are bacteria, viruses or other parasites that have developed immunity to most of the mainly used courses of treatment.

India is particularly vulnerable to them as:

(1) Huge population density → easier spread of bugs.

(2) Porous borders → immigrants from Bangladesh, Nepal may carry bugs which they may not be vaccinating against

(3) Poorly regulated farm sector → antibiotics are used in poultry sector to aid growth.

(4) Practice of self-medication

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(5) Easy availability of drugs without prescription

(6) Inability or lack of awareness about completing entire course of antibiotics

(7) Using antibiotics even for viral infections, diseases.

(8) Low awareness about MDR (Multi Drug Resistance) even in medical community → even doctors prescribe cocktail of antibiotics

(9) Visiting doctor only once symptoms become severe → needs stronger course of drug

(10) Mass bathing events like Kumbh Mela where bugs can spread to vast population

A superbug named NDM → after New Delhi has spread to entire world

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India, thus needs to take following measures to deal with the threat of superbugs

(1) WHO watchlist should be strictly followed → access, watch and reserve category of drugs should only be prescribed in correct hierarch

(2) Regulate and ban use of antibiotics in poultry sector

(3) Increase awareness about MDR → among patients, chemis and medical practitioners.

(4) Red line → on highest category antibiotics → serve as warning for patients

(5) R & D, innovation to develop vaccines.

Aayushmaan Bharat promises healthcare to the poorest Indians and fighting superbugs remains its critical area.

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17. Despite its associated risks, nanotechnology offers many advantages to improve upon existing technologies to tackle air, water, and soil pollution. Analyse.

अपने संबंधित जोखिमों के बावजूद, नैनो प्रौद्योगिकी वायु, जल और मृदा प्रदूषण से निपटने के लिए वर्तमान प्रौद्योगिकियों में सुधार लाने के कई सुअवसर भी प्रदान करती है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Nanotechnology is the use of technology and devices at the smallest scale - at size of 10^{-12} metres.

Risks associated with nanotechnology include:

(1) Extremely small size → can escape and become part of ecosystem → Bioaccumulation

(2) Difficult to control once it starts spreading

(3) May act as invasive species and deplete resources in an ecosystem → example: land accumulation

However, the advantages offered by nanotechnology are manifold and can help tackle air, water and soil pollution.

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Some of the examples are:

(1) Soil → nano molecules can be used to deliver precise quantity of fertilizer, pesticides, weedicides thus preventing overusage and exposure.

nano molecules can help deliver water to the roots of plants, preventing water logging

(2) Water → purification of water by using nano membrane

Using nanotechnology for bioremediation

Can be used at source of effluents to remove impurities before releasing the water into river bodies.

(3) Air → nano filters can be used at the source of exhaust chimneys → to remove harmful particles before the smoke is

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released into the air.

Nanotechnology driven air purifiers can be developed for public and home use.

However, care should be taken before scaling up the use of nanotechnology.

Its impact, especially on fish, soil organisms, birds should be evaluated.

Due safety tests, once passed, nanotechnology can become an effective tool in fighting pollution.

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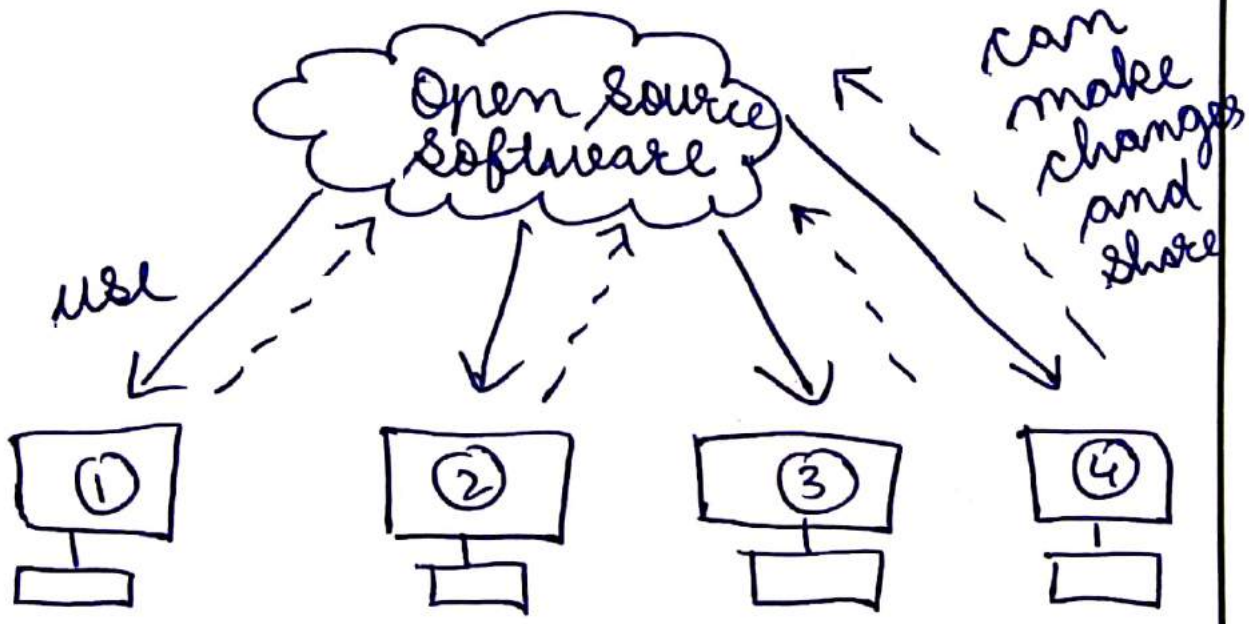
18. What is cloud computing? With examples, identify how it can improve the quality of governance. Also, suggest some measures that can be deployed to counter the security risks that may arise.

क्लाउड कंप्यूटिंग क्या है? उदाहरणों के साथ, पहचान कीजिए कि यह शासन की गुणवत्ता कैसे सुधार सकता है। साथ ही, इसके द्वारा व्युत्पन्न हो सकने वाले सुरक्षा जोखिमों का सामना करने के लिए अपनाये जाने वाले कुछ उपाय भी सुझाइए।

Cloud computing is the usage of cloud technology to perform various computing activities.

It uses distributed cloud, thus reducing costs. Example:



Thus, it can be used to access a particular application by several parties and the made changes can be shared among all.

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It can improve the quality of governance by:

(1) Faster, real time update or workflows → example: ASHA soft used to update the health and immunization details of children → the view can help quickly identify need for interventions

(2) Financial transparency → real time tracking of payment being made in PFMS

(3) Identify risks → can detect disease/epidemic beginning.

(4) Prevent pilferage → using centralised system for procurement, PDS system

(5) Usher transparency, fix accountability and enable citizen's rights

However, security risks

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may also arise, and due care should be taken to counter them like:

(1) ~~Cyber attacks~~ → hackers, spam, DDOS, virus, trojans can attack the cloud.

Needs both preventive measures like secure softwares, security tools and corrective measures like restoring the system to normalcy.

(2) Privacy concerns → additional data security layers in line with Justice Srikrishna recommendations

(3) Jurisdiction issues → most clouds are located in foreign locations. Data localization needs to be mandated.

MEGHDOOT, MEGHRAJ are some in use clouds by the government and with necessary security, their use will only increase

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19. Delineate objectives and services linked with Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISC) program of the WIPO. Also, highlight steps taken by India in this context with special emphasis on IPR awareness.

WIPO के प्रौद्योगिकी और नवाचार सहायता केंद्र (टेक्नोलॉजी एंड इनोवेशन सपोर्ट सेंटर्स: TISC) कार्यक्रम से जुड़े उद्देश्यों और सेवाओं का वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, IPR जागरूकता पर विशेष बल के साथ इस संदर्भ में भारत द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISC) program of the WIPO are a way to increase awareness and strengthen IPR regimes in developing countries.

India's first TISC has become operational in Punjab.

Its objectives and services include:

(1) Increase awareness about IPR processes like patent filing, evaluation

(2) Training manpower in such processes.

(3) Provide a repository of various patents from all over the world → can be

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accessed by students and professionals → can help aid innovation and research

India has also taken various steps in the direction of IPR awareness like:

(1) KIRAN scheme → training women scientists after a career break, in the area of IPR

(2) Courses by government institutions to build capacity among IPR professionals.

(3) Social media awareness campaigns like # Lets Talk IP

(4) UGC funding to higher education institutions is being proposed based on parameters like research papers published, patents filed.

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(5) National IPR Policy → which speaks about increasing awareness, administrative support and capacity building to create 500000 IPR professionals by 2025.

India's treaties like RCEP, BTIA have seen criticism of India's IPR regime during the negotiations.

USA has continually placed India in the grey list about IPR matters.

Hence, such international and government measures will help strengthen India's IPR regime and usher in a new chapter of 'Innovate in India'

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20. Discuss the significance of polar research and India's contribution in this regard.

ध्रुवीय शोध के महत्व और इस संबंध में भारत के योगदान की चर्चा कीजिए।

Polar regions are the last untouched land-masses and thus offer valuable insights in the areas like Biology, Geology, Hydrology and Climate Change.

Significance of polar research includes:

(1) Understand severity of climate change → rapidly melting icebergs in the pole

(2) Space research → due to lower pollution and unique day and night phenomenons.

(3) Mineral resources → newly exposed stretches are expected to contain valuable resources underneath → example: sea-bed mining for polymettalic nodules, minerals like manganese,

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copper, iridium.

(4) Energy Security → gas hydrat or methane hydrates have been trapped under these icebergs. If suitable technolog is developed to exploit them, they can solve the energy crisis of future.

(5) Ozone layer → studies in Antarctica were responsible for detecting the deterioration and the gradual repairing of the ozone layer.

India's contribution in this area includes:

(1) Antarctica → the continent is viewed as a common resource or 'global good'.

India has research stations MAITRI and BHARTI where research on bio-organisms

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and other life sciences is carried out.

HIMADRI will be replacing the old-non-operating station

(2) Arctic → India has sent seeds to the "seed vault" in Norway to preserve the genetic diversity of the plant kingdom.

India is an observer in the Arctic council.

As the last bastions free of anthropogenic influence, the polar research can help reveal insights into various physical and biological and cosmic areas.

India, with its scientific expertise can play a crucial role in the same.

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